Historic, archived document

Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.

THE MARKET REPORTER

Published Weekly by the
United States Department of Agriculture
Bureau of Markets

WASHINGTON, D. C. JANUARY 10, 1920. VOL. 1, NO. 2.

REVIEW OF THE LIVE-STOCK MARKET FOR 1919.

New Price and Receipts Records Established.

An imposing array of new records, some of which were of a character that producers and the trade in general devoutly trust may never again be approached, featured the live-stock market of 1919.

In so far as the aggregate volume of business transacted at the leading market centers is concerned, it was the biggest year in trade history, but much of the combined increase of approximately 1,300,000 head in receipts of cattle, hogs, and sheep at seven large western markets was the result of liquidation, partially enforced by climatic vicissitude. Representing as it did, in part, a draft on future supplies, the heavy movement can not be regarded, as the wish fathered by the present world's needs would have it, in the light of increased production.

Cattle.

Exclusive of approximately 1,500,000 calves, seven western markets, Chicago, Kansas City, Omaha, East St. Louis, St. Paul, St. Joseph, and Sioux City, received during 1919 more than 12,000,000 cattle. With the single exception of the year 1918, when the cattle run was larger by 800,000, the run for 1919 was numerically the biggest on record.

Rather than being indicative of well-maintained production, however, a study of conditions and the character of the run reveals evidences, scarcely open to dispute, that the contrary is the case. During the last half of the year western market hoppers groaned under an avalanche of bovine refugees, including many female cattle, young steers, and calves, from sections of the Northwest, drought conditions necessitating depletion of herds over a vast pastoral region. Chicago received nearly a half-million cattle from the northwestern range country, including a big contribution from Canada, while St. Paul's record cattle run and Omaha's near-record supply were made possible by enforced liquidation. It is probable that a summer and fall run of cattle of such numbers as that of 1919 never before yielded as little beef.

It was not the northwestern cattle run alone that was deficient in point of beef tonnage, nor which alone showed evidences of liquidation and other changing conditions in the beef-producing industry. A marked diminution in the proportion of aged cattle, a record run of calves, and a greatly increased quota of warmed-up and short-fed stock from the big grain-feeding sections where the practice of feeding over long periods formerly had been prevalent—all evidenced this liquidation and these changing conditions, and this was true not only at one but all market centers. Average weights of cattle reaching market centers decreased from 100 to 200 pounds from normal prewar standards. During the latter part of the year long-fed cattle practically disappeared, the high price of corn, other concentrates and hay having increased the cost of producing prime beef to a degree that very few feeders had the temerity to face.

Following a drought of three seasons' duration in the Southwest, the conditions encountered by stockmen of the Northwest the past year have, in trade opinion, reduced the country's potential beef supply to an extent that will be reflected in diminished receipts from the Northwest for several years to come at best. Texas, under favorable climatic conditions the past year, was a comparatively small contributor to the marketward movement, making a strenuous effort to recuperate and being a free purchaser of breeding stock, both cattle and sheep. But in attempting to build up its depleted herds and flocks Texas misses the opportunity it long enjoyed to depend upon Mexico as a prolific source of stocker supplies.

From what source needed numbers of young cattle are coming during 1920 to restock farms and ranches that have been more or less depleted by the drain incident to war, by dry weather, by the fear of high feed bills and by a very material reduction in the grazing and hay producing area, is a question now puzzling the minds of many students of the situation. Small grains and sugar beets have taken possession of thousands of acres of former alfalfa country in the West, while pasture and meadow area in the corn-belt and adjacent States has been cut down to grow wheat. The gradual expansion of the tick-free area is swelling live-stock production in the Southern States, a region capable of great expansion in a live-stock way, and which is being looked upon as a section that will do much to relieve impending scarcity of meat animals.

Among the outstanding features of the year's cattle trade were the relatively high cost of stockers and feeders, the unprecedently wide range in prices and the violent fluctuations in values and demand. In anticipation of a continued broad export demand, grazers and feeders laid in cattle early in the year with apparently less regard, for their cost than ever before. During the first four months of the year, fat cattle sold high, weekly average prices of beef steers at Chicago ranging from around $15.75 to $16.50. Within this period stockers and feeding grades were being bought up eagerly at prices averaging within

(Continued on page 21.)

APPLE MARKET SEASON.

Demand Slow at Shipping Points, but Fair in Most Terminal Markets—Foreign Outlet and the Box Apple Surplus a Problem.

The apple market started at a high level. Since the opening the price changes have been less extreme than for most other leading lines of produce. Development of several unfavorable conditions tended to prevent any further extended rise and at times led to temporary market weakness.

Gains in Commercial Crop.

The crop was larger than expected. According to the December estimate, the commercial production exceeded that of last year by 1,431,000 barrels. The northwestern apple section produced 35,463,000 boxes and the barrel section 14,353,000 barrels. The total commercial crop of all sections was equivalent to 26,174,000 barrels, which is about 3,000,000 barrels more than the September estimate.

Early prospects of a rather light crop were gradually changed to a certainty of one of the largest commercial crops in recent years, showing 3,707,000 barrels over 1917 and 1,115,000 barrels more than the commercial crop of 1916. The box apple section has gained on the barrel section, the box section now furnishing nearly one-half the crop. The average box crop of the preceding three years was about two-sevenths of the combined crop. Carlot movement from the two sections also has been nearly equal this year, with 31,734 cars from eight leading box apple States and 32,116 cars from the barrel apple sections.

Quality Variable.

The greater part of the fruit was of good size. Eastern apples were large but discolored by the sooty blotch which detracted at least $1 per barrel when present. In those parts of the Middle West and South where drought prevailed the apples were small. In the Rocky Mountain section the apples were considerably damaged by insects and disease, and graded low, causing much of the stock to be shipped in bulk. Northwestern apples, however, graded unusually high, but later suffered some damage from freezing.

Shipments Heavier.

According to the car-lot figures all the box apple States, except Utah, greatly exceeded last year's shipments and the total movement of box apples to the end of the year was about 50 per cent above last season to corresponding date. This gain of 9,672 cars

of boxed fruit was partly offset by a decrease of 2,670 cars from the barreled sections, leaving a net gain of 7,000 cars.

In the barrel section, the feature was a falling off in shipments from New York, the leading State, to little more than one-third the movement of last year. The unusually large size of the apples in some of the barrel sections caused an unexpectedly large outturn from many States of the Northeast and Southwest. Thus, Maine has shipped about 2,000 cars, compared with 250 for the whole of last season, and Arkansas shipped about four times as many as last season.

Foreign Markets Unsatisfactory.

A disappointing feature has been the unsatisfactory condition of the foreign outlet. Prices received in British markets often fell below cost and expenses, and only the best grades and varieties have reached the top legal price. Owing to the decline in rate of exchange, exporters lost about $1 in $5, compared with returns under normal conditions of exchange.

Best Maine apples were quoted at 40 shillings per barrel in Liverpool December 22, from which the net return in New York would be about $3.

Canadian competition in foreign markets is active, owing to the large crop in Nova Scotia, and it was reported that about 750,000 barrels were in storage in Nova Scotia at the end of the year. Prices in Montreal and Toronto have ranged $6 to $8 per barrel, which is about the same as in the leading cities of the United States.

The foreign outlet in itself is not of commanding importance. New York City alone unloads about 2,000,000 barrels yearly, which is more than the usual amount exported from this country, and the 16 leading cities take about three times that amount or about one-half of the total car-lot shipments. Canadian exports are heavier in comparison with the production, but the United States and Canadian shipments together have often fallen below 3,000,000 barrels a year. Yet, the export markets are important in fixing the disposal and value of the surplus and they indirectly affect the home markets.

Other Unfavorable Conditions.

Besides the poorer returns from the export markets, the situation was affected by the sugar shortage, the freezing of a part of the northwestern crop, and the poor color and keeping quality of some of the eastern crop.

For these reasons, and because of a fairly large crop, the apple market has shown no great strength compared with that of the leading lines of vegetables. Prices have experienced no sharp rise like that which occurred last season after the stock went into storage. Considering shrinkage and cost of storage, the present level is relatively not much above the early prices, although actual range so far has been higher.

Prices Higher This Year.

Compared with a year ago the general range to date has been $2 to $3 higher per barrel stock, but prices of box apples have averaged about the same as last season so far. While the barrel crop has ranged mostly $7 to $8.50, compared with last season's early price of $4 to $5.50, the box crop has shown about $3 average for such stock as extra fancy Jonathans and Winesaps as sold to the jobbing trade, while auction sales show an average considerably below $3.

Upward Trend by Seasons.

New York Baldwins A–2¼ started the 1918–19 season in October, 1918, at $4 to $6 per barrel in largest eastern consuming markets and this season have ranged $7 to $9.50, mostly $7 to $8. They reached the highest point of the 1918–19 season at $9.50 to $11 in March, as a result of development of active export demand, and closed the season not far below that level. The 1917–18 price was also high compared with preceding years, but the market fluctuated with the sugar shortage and other factors operating in that season, receding to $3.50 to $5.50 early in January, then recovering in late February to $5.50 to $6 and holding near that level the rest of the season.

To review the past five seasons: Wholesale prices reached low point during the harvest season for the big crop of 1914 and the general trend since that time has been upward. The wholesale price of the 1913 crop western Ben Davis apples ranged from $2.75 to $3.85 per barrel. The 1914–15 range was $1.50 to $2.70. In 1915–16 the range was $1.60 to $2.45. In 1916–17, the jobbing range was $1.87 to $3.70. For 1917–18 it was $3.12 to $3.50. For 1918–19 it was $4 to $8, and this season mostly $7 to $8.

The Market for Barreled Stock.

The standard late winter varieties became active in terminal markets about the 1st of October, when Virginia Yorks, A–2¼, ranged $6.50 to $7.25. The market strengthened slightly, reaching $6.75 to $8.25 early in November and gained slightly during the month, closing at a range of $7 to $8.50 and continuing at about the same level to the end of the year. New York Baldwins, A–2¼, became active in mid October, ranging $6.50 to $8.50. They gained slightly in November, reaching $7.50 to $9, weakened about the middle of December to range of $7 to $8.50 and later recovered to a range of $7 to $9.

In producing shipping sections of Virginia and West Virginia, Yorks ranged $6 to $6.75 f. o. b. during the active season from the middle of September to the last of October. Baldwins sold in the western New York producing sections at an early range of $6 to $7 f. o. b., advancing gradually to $7 to $7.50 in early November. In December sales were chiefly from cold storage at $7.50 to $8.50, with a few sales from common storage at $7.50. Present trading is light, although the demand seems slightly better than during December. Inquiry is gradually developing. Growers, who are the principal owners, appear somewhat anxious to sell. A considerable part of the supplies in storage comprises orchard-run stock and shows only fair quality. Only a very small percentage of the holdings will pack out strictly "A grade;" consequently the bulk of the movement consists of mixed A's and B's, straight B's, or ungraded stock of various sizes. Most shipments are being consigned for joint account. There are few sales of strictly A grade Baldwins. Best lots rule $7.50 per barrel f. o. b. Occasionally a fancy car sells higher. Grade A and grade B mixed, rule $6.75. Ordinary B grade ranges $5 to $6. Ungraded orchard-run stock sells at $4.50 up, with wide range of prices, according to quality, pack, etc. It is difficult to quote market on actual sales, as so few are being made, although there is a much better undertone to the market and gradual improvement in selling conditions is noticeable.

Position of the Boxed Crop.

Northwestern extra-fancy box Jonathans sold in consuming markets in late September at $3.50 to $4.50, but gradually fell off in October, ranging mostly $3 to $3.50 in that month and early November. The range in late November and December was mostly $2.75 to $3.25. These prices included a number of auction sales, as well as sales to jobbers. The range for northwestern extra-fancy Winesaps, which were quoted quite actively in December, was $1.80 to $3.50.

Northwestern shipping sections quoted extra fancy Jonathans $2.25 to $2.50 f. o. b., and Winesaps $2.75 to $3. Jonathans strengthened to $2.40 to $2.50 at the height of the season in October but last sales in November were $2.25 to $2.35. Extra-fancy Winesaps held the opening price until November and then strengthened to $3 to $3.15 and in early December ranged $2.75 to $3.25. Northwestern producing sections are very quiet and recent sales have been too few to establish the market. The latest quotation was $2.85 f. o. b. for extra-fancy Winesaps, small sizes. The lower relative price of the box apple crop compared with previous seasons may be explained in part by the size of the crop with its large percentage of extra-fancy grade. The presence of frozen stock also had a disturbing effect on the market. The disposal of the box-apple crop seems to be one of the main problems of the season. The barrel crop had an active early movement and the barrel stock in cold storage is about the same as a year ago. With improvement in the foreign outlet the supply may find ready disposal and notwithstanding the competition of Canadian cold-storage barrel stock, which is nearly three times the volume of last season.

The box crop usually has had a somewhat more special and limited market than the barrel crop. The early movement so far is over 9,000 cars larger than for the corresponding time last year but the increase in shipments is not equal to the excess of this crop which, in the State of Washington alone, is estimated at 8,500 cars more than last year, and with about 3,500 cars still to be shipped. Idaho had over 4,000 cars more than last year, with about 1,000 cars still to be moved. The stock of box apples reported in general cold storage is about 5,000 cars more than last year.

The Season in Brief.

The commercial crop has moved actively but still has a relative excess of box apples unsold and in cold storage. The prevailing general jobbing range of $7 to $8.50 for best barrel stock and the average of about $3 for best grades of standard varieties of box apples may be compared with a range of $4 to $7 for barrel apples and $3 to $3.25 for box apples for the early months of last season. The present jobbing price level of $7 to $8.50 per barrel is 50 cents to $1 above the mid-October level, while box apples are about 25 cents lower than at that time. Demand is fairly good in most markets.

LOW-PRICED ASIATIC PEANUTS.

The effect of offerings of Asiatic peanuts is already being felt in producing sections according to brokers and cleaners. For instance: They are reported unable to sell shelled extra-large and No. 1 Virginias to certain markets at the present time for January shipment or later, which they think is due to the fact that Asiatics will be available shortly after the first of the year, some of them being on the water now, and that the foreign offerings are on a much lower basis than the prevailing prices of Virginia shelled futures. Asiatic 36–32's are quoted at 12¼ cents per pound, Pacific coast, and an additional half-cent to put them through the Panama Canal to Atlantic points. Extra-large Virginias and No. 1's sell at 17 and 18 cents, respectively.

LIVE-STOCK MARKET CONDITIONS.

Week Ending January 3, 1920.

(Chicago, Kansas City, Omaha, and E. St. Louis.)

A combined supply of 195,400 cattle, 679,200 hogs, and 254,100 sheep at 10 markets for the week represented increases of 54,400 cattle, 85,400 hogs, and 84,200 sheep over the restricted Christmas-week marketing.

Cattle. Part of the bloom acquired by the beef-steer market under short receipts during the final week of the old year was lost in the ensuing week's trading but local conditions at the several market centers played a leading rôle in determining values. The offering was of a rather low average condition at all markets, light and medium weight warmed-up stock predominated, and comparatively few steers were good enough to top $15 although a $19.50 top was made at Chicago. Bullocks, grain-fed for a 90-day period or longer, were remarkably scarce and the movement of western range cattle dropped to negligible volume. Light to fair weight, warmed-up steers selling around $10.50 to $13.50 were numerous. Butcher cattle values were helped by the dwindling movement of low-priced range stock and closed steady to somewhat higher for the week at all points. Veal calves advanced at Chicago, held steady at Omaha, and closed lower at Kansas City and East St. Louis. Stock and feeding cattle values tended higher at all points except Kansas City where the decline in beef steers exerted a sympathetic weakening influence in the trade on steers suitable for the country outlet. Most of the stock and feeding steers brought from $7.50 to $11.50 with a few strong weight, meaty feeders upward from $12.

Hogs.—Despite moderately increased receipts the trend of hog values was upward throughout the week. Light runs at eastern points permitted a broad shipping demand at western markets which worked in conjunction with an active, local slaughter demand in boosting prices. The bulk of sales Saturday, January 3, were 50 to 95 cents above the close of the week previous, East St. Louis showing the least and Chicago the most advance. Quality generally was good.

Sheep and lambs.—Advances of 25 to 50 cents on most grades of lambs following the sharp price jumps of the preceding week put the market on a new high basis for the season, sales being recorded in fact at Chicago, where an $18.85 top was made, at the highest levels touched since last May. Yearlings followed the advance on lambs while matured muttons held with little change except at Kansas City where values moved up about 25 cents. The spread between sheep and lamb values was probably the widest on record.

Opening, January 5.—The week opening January 5 found liberal receipts of cattle at Kansas City and Omaha where beef and butcher classes sold steady to 25 cents lower. Receipts at Chicago and East St. Louis were moderate and the market steady to higher, values at Chicago advancing mostly 25 cents. Hogs advanced sharply, most points showing 25 to 40 cents gains over the previous week's closing average although receipts at 10 markets were 20,000 in excess of the preceding Monday. Sheep and lambs sold steady to higher, Kansas City and Omaha getting somewhat nearer in line with Chicago on fat lambs than recently by recording advances of 25 to 50 cents. The lamb top at Chicago was boosted to $18.90.

WHOLESALE PRICES WESTERN DRESSED MEATS, TUESDAY, JANUARY 6, 1920.

[Prices per 100 pounds.]

	Chicago.			New York.		
	Jan. 6.	Dec. 30.	Dec. 9.	Jan. 6.	Dec. 30.	Dec. 9.
Fresh beef:						
Steers—						
Choice			$25.00-$28.00			$23.00-$24.00
Good	$20.00-$23.50	$20.00-$24.00	20.00-25.00	$19.00-$21.00	$19.00-$22.00	19.00-22.00
Medium	16.50-19.50	16.00-19.50	15.00-19.00	17.00-19.00	17.00-19.00	17.00-18.00
Common	13.50-16.00	12.50-15.50	11.00-14.50	14.00-16.00	14.00-16.00	14.00-17.00
Cows—						
Good	15.50-17.00	15.00-16.00	14.00-15.00	16.00	16.00	15.00
Medium	14.00-15.50	13.50-14.50	12.50-13.50	14.00-15.00	14.00-15.00	13.00-14.00
Common	12.00-13.50	11.50-13.00	10.50-12.00	12.50-14.00	12.50-14.00	12.50-13.00
Bulls—						
Good						
Medium				11.00-12.00	11.00-12.00	
Common	9.00-10.50	9.00-10.50	8.50-10.00	10.00-10.50	10.00-10.50	9.00-10.00
Fresh lamb and mutton:						
Lambs—						
Choice	29.00	25.00-26.00	23.50-25.00	27.00-29.00	27.00-29.00	24.00-25.00
Good	27.00-29.00	24.00-25.00	21.50-23.00	25.00-26.00	25.00-26.00	23.00-24.00
Medium	24.00-26.00	22.00-23.50	19.00-21.00	22.00-24.00	22.00-24.00	21.00-22.00
Common	22.00-24.00	18.00-21.00	16.00-19.00	20.00-21.00	20.00-21.00	19.00-20.00
Mutton—						
Good	16.00-18.00	15.00-17.00	13.50-15.50	15.00-16.00	15.00-17.00	15.00
Medium	14.50-16.00	13.00-14.50	11.00-12.50	14.00-15.00	14.00-15.00	13.00-14.00
Common	11.50-14.00	11.00-12.50	9.00-11.00	10.00-12.00	10.00-12.00	10.00-12.00
Fresh veal:						
Choice	27.00-28.00	25.00-26.00	25.00-27.00	27.00-30.00	27.00-29.00	27.00-29.00
Good	26.00-28.00	23.00-25.00	21.00-25.00	24.00-26.00	24.00-26.00	23.00-26.00
Medium	23.50-26.00	20.00-22.50	18.00-21.00	20.00-23.00	20.00-23.00	20.00-22.00
Common	20.00-23.00	17.00-19.50	14.00-17.00	15.00-18.00	15.00-18.00	15.00-18.00
Fresh pork cuts:						
Pork loins—						
8-10 pounds, ave.	26.00-27.00	22.50-24.00	25.00-27.00	24.00-26.00	24.00-26.00	27.00-29.00
10-12 pounds, ave.	25.00-26.00	22.00-23.50	24.50-26.00	23.00-24.00	23.00-24.00	26.00-27.00
12-14 pounds, ave.	24.00-25.00	20.50-22.00	24.00-25.50	22.00-23.00	22.00-23.00	24.00-25.00
14 pounds, over	21.50-24.00	19.00-21.00	23.00-25.00	19.00-22.00	19.00-22.00	21.00-24.00
Shoulders—						
Plain						
Skinned	19.50-21.00	18.00-20.00	20.00-21.50	21.00-22.00	21.00-22.00	19.00-23.00
Picnics—						
4-6 pounds, ave.	19.00-21.00	18.50-20.00	20.00-22.00	21.00-22.00		
6-8 pounds, ave.	18.00-20.00	17.50-19.50	19.00-21.00	18.00-20.00	21.00-22.00	19.00-23.00
8 pounds, over	16.00-18.00	16.00-18.00	17.00-19.00			
Butts—						
Boneless				23.00-25.00	24.00-26.00	26.00-28.00
Boston style	22.00-23.00	19.50-22.00	21.50-23.50	22.00-23.00	21.00-22.00	23.00-25.00

LIVE-STOCK PRICES, TUESDAY, JANUARY 6, 1920.

[Prices per 100 pounds.]

	Chicago.		East St. Louis.	Kansas City.	Omaha.
	Jan. 6.	Dec. 30.	Jan. 6.	Jan. 6.	Jan. 6.
HOGS.					
Top	$14.90	$14.40	$15.00	$14.75	$14.50
Bulk of sales	14.55-14.80	14.15-14.35	14.70-14.90	14.25-14.65	14.10-14.40
Heavy (250 pounds up), medium-choice	14.55-14.80	14.10-14.40	14.60-15.00	14.45-14.70	14.25-14.40
Medium (200-250 pounds), medium-choice	14.65-14.90	14.20-14.40	14.65-15.00	14.25-14.75	14.30-14.50
Light (150-200 pounds), common-choice	14.55-14.80	14.15-14.35	14.50-15.00	14.00-14.60	14.10-14.35
Light lights (130-150 pounds), common-choice	14.15-14.65	13.75-14.25	14.00-14.75	13.50-14.00	14.00-14.20
Packing sows (250 pounds up), smooth	14.00-14.50	13.60-14.00	13.25-13.50	13.75-14.00	14.10-14.25
Packing sows (200 pounds up), rough	13.40-14.00	12.75-13.50	12.75-13.25	13.50-13.75	13.90-11.10
Pigs (130 pounds down), medium-choice	13.50-14.50	13.00-14.00	11.50-14.50		
Stock pigs (130 pounds down), common-choice			12.25-14.25	11.50-13.25	11.00-12.50
CATTLE.					
Beef steers:					
Medium and heavy (1,100 pounds up)—					
Choice and prime	18.75-20.00	18.75-20.00		16.40-18.50	16.50-18.50
Good	14.25-18.75	14.00-18.75	13.50-16.50	13.25-16.40	13.75-16.25
Medium	11.00-14.25	10.75-14.00	11.50-13.25	11.00-13.25	11.75-13.75
Common	8.75-11.00	8.75-10.75	7.75-11.25	8.75-11.00	10.00-11.75
Light weight (1,100 pounds down)—					
Choice and prime	18.50-20.00	18.50-20.00		16.00-18.25	16.25-18.50
Medium and good	10.75-18.50	10.75-18.50	11.25-16.00	10.50-16.00	12.25-16.00
Common	8.00-10.75	8.00-10.75	7.50-11.00	8.10-10.50	9.50-12.25
Butcher cattle:					
Heifers, common-choice	6.50-14.75	6.40-14.75	7.00-16.00	6.65-13.65	7.00-13.25
Cows, common-choice	6.40-13.50	6.25-13.50	7.00-12.50	6.60-11.60	6.75-13.00
Bulls, bologna and beef	7.50-12.00	7.75-11.75	6.25-10.50	6.25-10.00	6.00-11.00
Canners and cutters:					
Canner steers	6.25-8.00	6.00-7.75	6.00-7.50	6.00-7.75	
Cows and heifers	5.25-6.40	5.25-6.25	5.10-6.75	5.25-6.60	5.00-6.75
Veal calves:					
Light and handy weight, medium-choice	16.25-17.50	15.75-17.00	13.50-18.00	13.00-15.50	13.00-14.50
Heavy weight, common-choice	7.25-12.50	7.00-12.25	7.00-13.25	6.00-11.00	7.00-11.50
Feeder steers:					
Heavy (1,000 pounds up), common-choice	9.00-12.50	8.75-12.25	9.75-12.00	8.75-13.00	9.25-14.00
Medium (800-1,000 pounds), common-choice	7.75-12.00	7.25-11.75	8.25-11.50	8.00-12.25	8.00-12.75
Light (800 pounds down), common-choice	7.50-11.25	7.00-11.00	6.75-10.75	7.75-11.40	7.75-11.75
Stocker cattle:					
Steers, common-choice	6.50-10.50	6.00-10.25	6.25-10.50	6.00-10.50	7.25-11.50
Cows and heifers, common-choice	6.50-8.25	6.25-8.00	6.25-8.00	5.50-8.50	5.50-8.25
Calves—					
Good and choice	9.75-10.75	9.50-10.50	8.00-10.25	8.25-11.00	9.25-11.25
Common and medium	7.50-9.50	7.25-9.25	6.50-8.00	6.00-8.00	6.75-9.25
SHEEP.					
Lambs:					
84 pounds down, medium-prime	16.50-19.00	15.50-18.40	15.50-18.75	17.00-18.50	17.25-18.25
Culls and common	13.00-16.00	11.75-15.25	8.00-15.00	10.50-16.50	13.00-17.00
Yearling wethers, medium-prime	12.25-16.75	11.65-16.00	11.50-16.00	14.25-15.60	13.50-15.75
Wethers, medium-prime	10.75-12.00	10.00-11.75	9.50-11.50	11.50-12.50	11.00-11.75
Ewes:					
Medium-choice	8.50-11.00	8.25-10.75	7.50-10.00	8.25-10.80	9.25-10.40
Culls and common	5.00-8.25	4.25-8.00	4.00-7.00	4.00-8.00	5.50-9.25
Breeding ewes, full mouths to yearlings				8.00-14.00	
Feeder lambs	14.50-16.25	13.50-16.00		14.00-16.50	14.00-16.25

REVIEW OF MEAT-TRADE CONDITIONS.

Week Ending January 2, 1920.

(Boston, Chicago, New York, and Philadelphia.)

The week was generally unsatisfactory from the wholesalers' standpoint, with stocks accumulating and forced sales the rule. Although a strong effort was made in some markets early in the week to boost prices to a higher level, the slow demand throughout was the cause of a slightly lower price level on all dressed meats except veal.

Beef.—The trade was not inclined to pay the prices asked for good and choice grades of steers, and all eastern markets and Chicago declined practically $1 from the week previous. Supply and demand were more nearly equal for low-grade steer beef and prices generally were steady. Just the reverse was true with reference to cow beef. Good cows held steady to firm with a slight tendency upward, while lower grades weakened and closed 50 cents lower at the eastern markets and steady at Chicago. The demand for bulls was spasmodic and price ranges at the week's close were very uneven at the several markets. The tendency of Kosher-beef prices was upward, with the demand for top grades not fully met.

Veal.—The supply of good handy-weight veal was insufficient for the demand, and while prices varied but little from those of the preceding week, the trend was toward a higher level.

Pork.—Conditions affecting the eastern and Chicago pork markets were very dissimilar. All eastern markets declined approximately $1 per 100 pounds, while Chicago advanced a like amount. These price changes resulted in a lower market at Chicago, which is one of the principal sources of supply, than at eastern distributing centers.

Lamb and mutton.—Although Boston advanced $1 on lambs late in the week the market at the close was still from $2 to $3 below the other principal markets on the better grades. Mutton continued to drag and most sales were made at prices between $1 and $2 below those of the previous week.

Closing.—At the close of business on Friday the strike of luggers and cutters at New York was still in effect, but had not seriously interfered with the volume of trade or deliveries.

INCREASED LIVE-STOCK RECEIPTS AT SOUTH ST. PAUL IN 1919.

Receipts of all kinds of live stock at the South St. Paul market in 1919 were greater than those of the preceding year. Cattle receipts totaled 1,170,244 as compared with 1,161,592 received in 1918. The increased cattle receipts, however, may be mostly accounted for because of drouth conditions over a large section of the range country which contributes a larger percentage of the cattle receipts at this market during the fall months. While the total receipts for the year show an increase of only 8,652, the State of Montana alone forwarded 56,335 more cattle to this market in 1919 than in 1918. Another factor which contributed largely to increasing the cattle receipts was the growth of trade in Canadian cattle at this market. Receipts of cattle for 1919 totaled 178,162, an increase of 89,096 over 1918.

Receipts of calves for 1919 totaled 320,682, as compared with 268,816 for 1918, an increase of 51,866. The increase of calves can not be accounted for by increased marketing either from the western range territory or from Canada, and is largely accounted for by the trade here as an increase in the number of cattle in the territory which contributes heavily to receipts at this market; namely, Minnesota, North and South Dakota, and upper Wisconsin.

Receipts of hogs for 1919 totaled 2,189,716, as compared with 2,061,390 for 1918, an increase of 128,326. The increase of hogs came mostly from the territory mentioned, which regularly contributes the large percentage of receipts of live stock at this market and shows increased production during the past year, which probably was largely accounted for by the high price of hogs, and also by the good crops of corn and small grain which were raised in this territory during 1918, and also again during the season just past.

Receipts of sheep for 1919 totaled 911,885, as compared with 630,203 for 1918, an increase of 281,682. Montana marketed here during the year, 219,322 head, as compared with 162,987 head the previous year, an increase of 56,335. The biggest percentage of the rest of the increase of 281,000 for the year probably were sheep that were moved from Montana and other western range States to pasture in northern Minnesota and Wisconsin, and North and South Dakota, and then marketed here later.

RECEIPTS, SHIPMENTS, AND LOCAL SLAUGHTER.

Week Ending Saturday, Jan. 3, 1920.

Market.	Cattle and calves.			Hogs.			Sheep.		
	Receipts.	Shipments.	Local slaughter.	Receipts.	Shipments.	Local slaughter.	Receipt.	Shipments.	Local slaughter.
Chicago	74,218	27,731	46,487	226,754	48,537	178,217	92,084	23,620	68,461
Denver	16,139	18,925	1,921	5,323	640	4,687	18,826	26,573	2,086
East St. Louis	20,776	3,375	15,483	99,891	36,129	76,325	12,134	6,034	8,992
Fort Worth	11,244	3,211	4,846	10,922	2,199	9,586	2,841	2,419	1,873
Indianapolis [1]	9,169	4,426	4,503	82,791	41,388	38,448	1,590	1,153	312
Kansas City	34,832	10,506	21,094	59,407	6,593	47,378	26,694	6,048	18,690
Omaha	28,556	9,090	16,367	67,294	12,387	54,907	53,565	16,026	23,420
St. Joseph [1]	8,894	3,780	5,777	50,887	2,776	47,628	15,063	1,065	13,505
St. Paul	15,433	4,598	9,274	41,437	4,508	30,087	12,100	7,126	3,539
Sioux City [1]	13,516	5,230	6,784	47,383	16,308	29,346	16,826	7,599	9,831
Wichita [1]	3,319	1,741	1,659	8,095	417	5,008	235	109	156
Total	236,126	91,613	131,195	700,187	171,881	521,627	251,961	97,772	150,771

[1] Week ending Friday, Jan. 2, 1920.

THE WEEKLY LIVE STOCK AND MEAT TRADE NEWS DISCONTINUED.

The more essential items which appeared in the Weekly Live Stock and Meat Trade News hereafter will be published in THE MARKET REPORTER.

The former mimeograph periodical, which has been issued since December 4, 1917, from all branch offices of the Live Stock and Meats Division having leased wire service, was discontinued with the issue of January 7, 1920. The purpose of this periodical was to give prompt distribution to timely information pertaining specifically to market supplies, prices, and movements of live stock and meats, current market conditions, restrictions and regulations affecting the marketing of live stock and meats, together with other information of special interest to stockmen and others engaged in the trade.

INCREASED SLAUGHTER OF COWS AND HEIFERS AT ST. JOSEPH.

Approximately 60 per cent of the cattle slaughtered by one of the largest packing companies at South St. Joseph during the first 11 months of 1919 were cows and heifers, whereas the records of this company in 1918 show that the number of female stock approximated only 45 per cent of the total number of cattle slaughtered. One reason advanced for this increase in the slaughter of females is that many herds were greatly reduced following the extreme dry season in sections of the west.

STOCKER AND FEEDER SHIPMENTS.

Week Ending Friday, Jan. 2, 1920.

	Cattle.	Hogs.	Sheep.
Market origin:			
Chicago	6,976	.....	18,400
Denver	19,095	92	33,313
East St. Louis	2,006	781	775
Fort Worth	5,148	485	1,385
Kansas City	7,179	2,046	3,083
Oklahoma City	1,624	156	.....
Omaha	4,329	.....	6,723
St. Joseph	1,128	105	437
St. Paul	2,656	1,885	367
Sioux City	3,096	640	2,990
Wichita	1,031	451	.....
Total	54,268	6,641	67,383
State destination:			
Arizona	.....	149	.....
Arkansas	76	.....	.....
Colorado	3,059	.....	10,710
Illinois	4,108	1,401	4,616
Indiana	1,581	.....	2,204
Iowa	7,203	1,300	2,436
Kansas	3,855	288	1,735
Kentucky	66	.....	269
Maryland	37	.....	738
Michigan	460	.....	3,850
Minnesota	1,012	455	261
Missouri	3,425	767	3,183
Nebraska	1,759	205	9,024
New Jersey	40	.....	1,238
New Mexico	6,721	246	.....
New York	76	.....	2,279
North Dakota	27	.....	.....
Ohio	1,424	.....	873
Oklahoma	2,266	281	.....
Pennsylvania	636	.....	1,397
South Carolina	94	.....	.....
South Dakota	839	.....	531
Texas	13,983	584	21,374
Virginia	252	.....	.....
West Virginia	48	.....	.....
Wisconsin	345	8	557
Not given	853	977	106
Total	54,268	6,641	67,383

DAILY AVERAGE WEIGHT AND COST OF HOGS.

Week Ending January 3, 1920.

[Prices per 100 pounds.]

	Chicago.		Kansas City.		Omaha.	
	Av. wt.	Av. cost.	Av. wt.	Av. cost.	Av. wt.	Av. cost.
	Lbs.		*Lbs.*		*Lbs.*	
Monday, Dec. 29	235	$14.01	202	$13.99	266	$13.45
Tuesday, Dec. 30	234	14.20	193	14.25	242	13.74
Wednesday, Dec. 31	234	14.29	200	14.28	241	13.80
Thursday, Jan. 1	238	14.39	200	14.44	234	13.89
Friday, Jan. 2	217	14.47	211	14.33	233	14.14
Saturday, Jan. 3	229	14.77	188	14.47	231	14.20
Average	231	14.28	195	14.23	236	13.91
Average, week ending Dec. 27, 1919	236	13.50	191	13.61	248	13.27
Average, week ending Dec. 6, 1919	233	13.93	193	14.13	251	13.55

The above averages are computed on packer and shipper purchases.

LIVE STOCK MARKET FOR 1919.

(Continued from first page.)

$4 to $5 per hundred pounds of average beef steer values, while pasture land was contracted at theretofore unheard-of prices. Then came demobilization and the termination of Government meat contracts which cut off an immense demand for meat products. Values fell with a thud and the slump was accelerated by producers' anxiety, furthered by a soaring corn market, to unload stock laid in at a high cost. Corn sold at the highest prices of the year during the summer months, the advance being steady until August, when cash corn sold at Chicago up to $2.10.

Top cattle, such as sold up to $20.40 at Chicago on the March high spot could not pass $16.40 at the best time in June, and the general average fell from about $16 in March down to about $13.50 in June. Early in July choice and prime cattle, by reason of the fact that they had become rarities at all market centers, showed a gradual upturn in values that culminated in new record prices for such specialties early in December, when prime grades were in urgent demand for Christmas trade requirements. Sales were made in the pre-Christmas trade as high as $20 to $21.50, but the range in prices was the widest in trade history, common light killing steers selling down to $8 and comparatively few steers being good enough to pass $15 at the time when prime Christmas bullocks touched $21 or better.

Hogs.

A total of 25,270,162 hogs reached seven western markets—Chicago, Kansas City, Omaha, East St. Louis, St. Joseph, Sioux City, and St. Paul—during 1919, a supply within 190,252 head of the record run recorded at these points the year previous. Increases were noted at East St. Louis, St. Paul, and Chicago, the first-named market hanging up a new yard record of 3,640,451, or 383,951 more than the preceding year. These gains were more than offset by material decreases at Omaha, St. Joseph, and Kansas City and by a moderately reduced supply at Sioux City. Average weights decreased slightly at Missouri River markets, and the previous year's average was maintained at Chicago and increased at St. Paul. Average weights for the year follow:

City.	1919	1918
Chicago	234	234
Kansas City	191	201
Omaha	215	219
East St. Louis	181	182
St. Joseph	227	230
South St. Paul	222	206

During the first two months of 1919 and up to March 5, market values of hogs were regulated by an agreement reached between the Government, producers, and packers. The set minimum prices during this period (a $17.50 minimum daily average at Chicago with differentials for outside markets) was rigidly maintained, although producers with a big crop of mature hogs on hand and fearful of a declining market when the control period ended crowded the market hopper. During January alone 3,390,561 hogs were reported at seven western markets, an increase of 1,000,498 over the same month of 1918. By the middle of February it became evident that the supply of hogs left in feeders' hands had been worked down to something like normal volume, February's increase at seven western points over the same month of the previous year being but 183,692 head, while by the time price regulations had been removed in March receipts were beginning to fall short of the corresponding period of the year previous. Under such conditions, and with a broad export demand for pork products anticipated, killers became greedy buyers and the price pendulum swung upward.

The sentiment of producers changed as demand for the product showed evidence of assuming great breadth, and, with receipts sharply reduced during March and April, values climbed rapidly, the April market producing a $21.15 top at Chicago as compared with $18 in January and $18.15 in February. During May, June, and July the trend of values continued upward despite fairly liberal receipts for the season, killers indulging in a scramble for supplies during this period and valorizing product on hand. The crest of the advance was touched on July 31, when top hogs reached $23.60 and the general average $22.70 at Chicago. A prolonged series of wild fluctuations, with the general trend downward followed, the slump in values from the year's high time to the low spot, which was uncovered early in December, averaging more than $10 per hundred pounds. The crash was attributed to various factors, chief of which may be mentioned the failure of killers' anticipated inventory profits to materialize owing to the inability of European countries in need of American pork products to establish long lines of credit, and to the action of the British Government in taking control of meat stocks in England.

The sharp decline in hog values during the August to December period stimulated liquidation, and since July there has been a free marketing of sows. Late in the year the market took another upward spurt, closing with an average nearly $2 per hundred pounds higher than the December low time, a broad domestic demand and a more satisfactory situation as regards export trade in pork products causing the reaction. A car shortage, tending to hold down November and December receipts, and the development of a good eastern shipping demand at western markets at this juncture, when it appeared the crop in the East had been closely garnered, were added strengthening influences.

While the year's hog marketings showed production to have been on a generous scale, considerable liquidation was prompted by the severe declines recorded in values during the August to early December period, by dry weather in some sections and by the high cost of production. Hæmorrhagic septicæmia, popularly known as the "flu," was responsible for heavy mortality of porcine stocks, but cholera outbreaks were of a sporadic and comparatively inconsequential character. Dry weather and feed shortage forced Kansas, Oklahoma, and some other sections to market pigs and underweight light hogs freely, accounting for a 10-pound decrease in the average weight of hogs at Kansas City for the year. A pound of fat on a hog's back represents a greater outlay for corn than formerly, in part because the by-products of the cattle-feeding industry make less pork than under old-time long-feeding methods. Consequently, there was a pronounced tendency on the part of Iowa and other big cattle and hog feeding States to market sows closely. This was partially responsible for a very wide spread in prices during the summer, and at Chicago, a dumping ground for heavy packing hogs from other markets, such stock sold during much of the late summer and early fall $4 to $5 per hundred pounds below the top.

The big increase shown in hog receipts in 1919 at St. Paul was attributed partially to increased production in eastern South Dakota, while the St. Louis market received hogs in largely increased numbers from southeastern territory, Tennessee, Kentucky, Alabama, Georgia, Louisiana, Florida, and other Southeastern States, showing a great expansion in pork production.

Sheep.

An increase of 2,241,560 head in the receipts of sheep and lambs at seven western markets during 1919 over the preceding year, was attributed to increased production both in the fleece States and the West, and to enforced liquidation of flocks from a vast area of the pastoral country west of the one hundredth meridian. Montana, Wyoming, Utah, Nevada, and Oregon were hit hard by drought and the depletion of breeding stock in these States being serious. Idaho and Washington escaped with less serious loss. Increases in receipts were recorded at all the more important western market centers. Chicago gained 614,221 head over the year previous. Omaha reported the arrival of a record run for that market of 3,788,188 or 402,492 more than arrived there during 1918, the former banner year. Other Missouri River markets, also St. Paul, Denver, and Fort Worth scored substantial increases in supplies over the preceding year. Considering the supply volume, the market performed after a fashion which left little room for complaint on the part of producers. High markets for wool, skins, and other by-products were strong props under the price list, while the avid manner in which feeder buyers absorbed thin stock from the big summer and fall runs of range stuff saved flockmasters from disaster. As usual the high point of the year was uncovered during the season when Colorado fed lambs were marketed, a $21 lamb top being recorded at Chicago in March, while matured sheep sold upward to $17.25 the first week of April.

Throughout the year sheep sold at sharp discounts from lambs, consumptive demand centering strongly on the latter. During the greater part of the year, the spread in prices between lambs and matured sheep was the widest ever known. The general average price for fat lambs at Chicago for the year figured about $16 against an average of around $10 for aged mutton sheep. The year's low spot on sheep was recorded during the first half of October and early November, when $7 to $9.25 took the bulk of fat ewes and wethers. Top lambs sold down to $14.50 at one time in November, but moderate receipts, a soaring wool market and a healthy dressed lamb trade were factors in lifting values for best lambs $4 per 100 pounds above this level by the year's final session.

LAMBS MARKETED EARLY FROM SAN LUIS VALLEY IN COLORADO.

Nearly half the pea-fed lambs have already moved out of the San Luis Valley, according to reliable reports received by the Bureau of Markets. The movement this season was from three to four weeks earlier than usual. Shipping began late in November, and progressed fairly steadily throughout December. Normally about three-fourths of the lambs fed in the valley go to market during January, but this year less than three-fourths of those fed remained in feed lots at the close of 1919. Many of the lambs had been on feed only 100 days when marketed, and some even less. Some feeders make a practice of marketing short-fed or "warmed-up" lambs. It is reported also that a number of men who have plenty of peas and who had planned to finish their lambs are marketing them early to avoid further losses through mortality.

DAIRY AND POULTRY

BUTTER PRICES CONTINUE TO DECLINE.

Although butter prices continued downward during the week ending January 3, the average decline of 1 cent on the five important markets, New York, Chicago, Philadelphia, Boston, and San Francisco, indicated a somewhat better feeling in view of existing trade conditions. Considering the arrival of Danish butter, rumored at approximately 300,000 pounds, the somewhat heavier production, the resale in the United States of foreign-owned storage stocks, the dull trade during the holiday season, and the fact that there was no export trade of any considerable quantity reported, it was encouraging to the trade that a larger decline did not occur. In the main the movement of prices downward reduced the wide range in prices existing between the eastern markets and Chicago.

While fancy butter was scarce and in special demand, increased arrivals of and demand for fresh make of medium quality tended to narrow the range in prices between grades and to lessen demand for storage stocks. As a result, storage reductions amounted to less than 75 per cent of the reduction during the previous week.

By the general price reduction and narrowing of the limits of prices for the different grades and markets, dealers feel that conditions are more conducive to trade activity than they have been for some time past.

CHEESE MARKET EXPECTANT.

Consumptive demand for cheese improved during New Year's week, thereby enabling jobbers with high-cost summer cheese on hand to reduce stocks in anticipation of more active business in the fall makes during January. Otherwise there was no particular change in the cheese market. Prices were generally maintained with held cheese selling quite readily at the higher prices. Current makes, although scarce, were of none too good quality and were consequently difficult to move.

The wholesale dealers were forced to content themselves with rumors of increased business during January both for domestic and foreign trade, as the market was very quiet. During the week ending January 3, jobbers requiring supplies purchased only enough cheese to meet immediate needs. However, as a result of the decline in the butter market, cheese prices are more nearly in line with butter prices than they have been for several months past, which under normal conditions should facilitate trading.

STATISTICAL REVIEW OF FIVE PRINCIPAL MARKETS FOR WEEK ENDING JAN. 3, 1920.

[New York, Chicago, Philadelphia, Boston, and San Francisco.]

Butter Review.

WHOLESALE PRICES (PER POUND) CREAMERY BUTTER, 92 SCORE.

	New York.	Chicago.	Philadelphia.	Boston.	San Francisco.
Monday	71	63½	71	70	63½
Tuesday	71	64	71	70	63½
Wednesday	70	63	70½	70	64
Thursday [1]					
Friday	68	63	69	67	64½
Saturday	69½	63	69	68	64½
Average for week	69.90	63.50	70.10	69.00	64.00
Previous week	70.80	65.60	72.00	70.20	65.10
Corresponding week last year	69.50	67.40	69.60	68.00	61.62

[1] Holiday.

COLD-STORAGE MOVEMENT OF BUTTER AT FIVE MARKETS.

	Week ending Jan. 3.	Previous week.	Last year.
Put into cold storage	*Pounds.* 775,159	*Pounds.* 340,943	*Pounds.* 960,140
Withdrawn from storage	2,321,265	2,689,924	2,961,510
Decrease during week	−1,546,106	−2,348,981	−2,001,400
Total holdings	39,185,438	40,730,544	21,228,781

RECEIPTS OF BUTTER AT FIVE MARKETS.

	Pounds.
Week ending Jan. 3, 1920	6,758,678
Previous week	5,873,885
Corresponding week last year	6,628,575

Cheese Review.

WHOLESALE PRICES (PER POUND), AMERICAN CHEESE, NO 1 TWINS.

	New York.	Chicago.	Boston.	San Francisco. [1]	Wisconsin.
Monday	31–32	30½–31½	32–33	28	30½
Tuesday	31–32	30½–31½	32–33	26½	30½
Wednesday	31–32	30½–31½	32–33	26½	30½
Thursday [2]					
Friday	31–32	30½–31½	32–33	26½	31
Saturday	31–32	30½–31½	32–33	26½	31
Average for week	31.50	31.00	32.50	26.33	30.75
Previous week	31.50	30.89	32.50	27.90	30.59

[1] Flats. [2] Holiday.

COLD STORAGE OF CHEESE AT FIVE MARKETS (POUNDS).

	Week ending Jan. 3.	Previous week.	Last year.
Put into cold storage	*Pounds.* 237,895	*Pounds.* 340,426	*Pounds.* 623,580
Withdrawn from cold storage	916,038	728,876	775,911
Decrease during week	−678,143	−388,450	−152,331
Total holdings	21,007,821	21,685,964	6,976,906

RECEIPTS OF CHEESE AT FIVE MARKETS.

	Pounds.
Week ending January 3, 1920	2,489,678
Previous week	2,535,045
Corresponding week last year	1,936,236

Egg Review.

COLD-STORAGE MOVEMENT OF EGGS AT FIVE MARKETS.

	Week ending Jan. 3.	Previous week.	Last year.
Put into cold storage	*Dozen.* 99,270	*Dozen.* 99,240	*Dozen.* 310,170
Withdrawn from storage	1,891,089	1,946,250	3,846,990
Decrease during week	−1,701,810	−1,847,010	−3,536,820
Total holdings	25,411,670	30,123,660	11,628,480

RECEIPTS OF EGGS AT FIVE MARKETS.

	Dozen.
Week ending Jan. 3, 1920	1,474,680
Previous week	2,068,650
Corresponding week last year	2,775,180

Dressed-Poultry Review.

COLD-STORAGE MOVEMENT OF DRESSED POULTRY AT FIVE MARKETS.

	Week ending Jan. 3.	Previous week.	Last year.
Put into cold storage	*Pounds.* 7,161,475	*Pounds.* 6,923,676	*Pounds.* 705,611
Withdrawn from storage	1,326,483	1,881,095	166,568
Increase during week	+5,831,992	+5,042,581	+539,043
Total holdings	62,180,213	56,315,231	61,941,249

RECEIPTS OF DRESSED POULTRY AT FIVE MARKETS.

	Pounds.
Week ending Jan. 3, 1920	11,659,272
Previous week	16,797,096
Corresponding week last year	8,257,111

SOURCE AND PRICES OF BRITISH BUTTER SUPPLY.

"Reviewing the world's position of butter in the light of to-day, it certainly looks as though it might be nearly two years before conditions revert to anything like a normal level," says the Danish Butter Trade Journal for September 19, 1919, in a review of the British butter situation for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1919, "and as long as the present scarcity of butter continues some sort of control may be thought necessary, if only to insure equitable distribution. Prices are not likely to become lower under control.

"The Government bought the whole exportable surplus from New Zealand and Australia for the seasons 1918–19 and 1919–20 and is reported to have paid $43.98 per hundredweight (112 pounds) f. o. b. for first grade New Zealand butter and $42.25 f. o. b. for first grade Australian butter, with second and third grades at proportionate rates. Purchases have also been made from Argentina at $41.31 f. o. b., and from South Africa at $42.25 f. o. b., whilst considerable quantities of American butter have also been contracted for on Government account. Very large quantities of Irish butter have also come through the pool, the Government having bought the whole of the 1918 and 1919 exportable surpluses.

"Negotiations are also proceeding for the purchase of considerable quantities from Denmark and the Netherlands, although in the case of the latter country it is not anticipated that there will be much, if any, exported. Canada will probably export some quantity, but there will be little or no butter from Siberia, and exports from France are prohibited.

"If the Central Empires can find the money they will probably take considerable quantities of Danish and Dutch, and also Siberian, if any is available, or indeed any kind of butter.

"The quality of some of the Government butter has been very unsatisfactory, and a great deal of dissatisfaction has been caused by the flat wholesale rate of $61.24 per hundredweight for good, bad, and indifferent qualities. Owing to short supplies and a preponderence of inferior quality goods, the Government has from time to time been obliged to deliver blended butter to the trade, and a proportion of this has been hardly fit for counter trade. New Zealand and Australia have kept their average quality well up to their usual high standard. There have been a good many complaints in regard to the quality of Argentine butter, large quantities of which have from time to time been placed in cold stores. Apparently, this butter does not keep nearly so well as Australian or New Zealand butter, and in some instances mould has developed during the voyage, especially in the case of the unsalted brands. French butter has been practically off the market, all being required last year for the forces in France or for local requirements.

"Little or no Danish butter has been received until quite recently, but fair arrivals of this popular article are expected from now onwards. The quality of a good deal of the Irish butter received last year left much to be desired, and not a few of the factories were penalized for exceeding the legal amount of moisture. Unfortunately, owing to adverse climatic conditions, the quantity of butter shipped to this country from South Africa during 1918–19 has been almost negligible, but the quality of the small lots received has been fairly uniform and satisfactory."

FINAL QUARTERLY PRODUCTION REPORT OF MANUFACTURED DAIRY PRODUCTS AND OLEOMARGARINE.

Manufactured product.	July, 1919.			August, 1919.			September, 1919.		
	Number of factories reporting.	Amount manufactured.	Increase or decrease (—) over July, 1918.	Number of factories reporting.	Amount manufactured.	Increase or decrease (—) over August, 1918.	Number of factories reporting.	Amount manufactured.	Increase or decrease (—) over September, 1918.
		Pounds.	*Per cent.*		*Pounds.*	*Per cent.*		*Pounds.*	*Per cent.*
Creamery butter	3,393	104,155,533	2.80	3,389	84,458,273	— 2.00	3,389	68,815,490	— 1.66
Whey butter (made from whey cream)	341	1,290,124	77.36	338	1,039,900	45.76	339	881,380	48.07
Renovated or process butter	15	688,983	—58.23	15	778,142	—51.50	14	689,672	—61.85
American cheese, whole milk	2,008	35,465,017	2.45	2,002	30,940,232	7.85	2,002	26,256,549	1.07
American cheese, part skim	42	732,809	13.32	42	528,176	—20.65	42	276,674	—32.33
American cheese, full skim	55	821,415	24.96	55	710,736	341.45	55	528,067	4.80
Swiss cheese, includes block	302	3,440,549	— 7.00	310	3,227,488	3.06	311	2,629,450	5.98
Brick and munster cheese	306	2,872,007	— 2.22	305	2,552,768	.41	310	2,462,945	5.33
Limburger cheese	120	886,299	— 6.05	118	874,133	— 2.05	119	748,086	— 3.79
Cottage, pot, and bakers' cheese	300	2,344,858	2.91	300	2,201,372	33.06	301	1,895,083	11.55
Cream and Neufchatel cheese	40	506,491	33.36	40	402,011	27.69	39	376,972	11.25
All Italian varieties of cheese	34	334,639	—23.35	35	312,054	—11.52	34	279,230	—25.86
All other varieties of cheese	67	661,120	12.99	66	627,851	6.68	67	703,497	— 1.51
Sweetened condensed milk:									
Case goods—									
Skimmed	8	1,009,755	60.95	8	673,222	289.04	8	471,656	4,801.50
Unskimmed	79	54,240,337	34.92	79	44,051,928	25.24	79	45,840,842	28.40
Bulk goods—									
Skimmed	81	3,835,167	.75	82	3,435,979	50.45	82	3,491,798	—17.97
Unskimmed	56	2,158,421	—42.00	56	2,274,013	—48.96	56	3,184,930	—55.04
Unsweetened evaporated milk:									
Case goods—									
Skimmed	7	301,769	238.30	7	231,851		7	460,276	54.91
Unskimmed	129	115,759,208	9.46	129	97,888,901	15.01	129	87,098,932	6.16
Bulk goods—									
Skimmed	88	8,573,768	8.64	87	6,938,772	9.88	88	4,993,575	30.69
Unskimmed	85	8,779,088	8.67	84	7,511,716	4.39	84	5,520,376	21.25
Evaporated milk, part or full skimmed, modified with foreign fat:									
Case goods	6	5,175,520	—16.68	6	5,518,708	33.47	5	4,804,876	5.56
Bulk goods	4	293,802	18.75	4	245,267	25.70	4	168,825	48.48
Sterilized milk (canned same as condensed)	3	46,277		3	105,743	—16.73	3	90,443	42.86
Condensed or evaporated buttermilk	21	3,660,376	81.01	21	3,031,189	40.28	21	2,424,572	.38
Dried or powdered buttermilk	8	601,178	— 9.16	8	438,554	—29.90	8	341,810	—25.24
Powdered whole milk	15	1,036,194	119.35	15	977,772	179.37	15	868,465	20.07
Powdered skimmed milk	17	3,343,393	—.48	17	3,199,303	1.26	15	2,372,636	— 9.73
Powdered cream	3	68,458	145.64	3	87,754	130.58	3	38,832	—39.85
Dried casein (skim milk)	97	1,567,651	—10.79	96	1,095,665	— 7.15	96	857,962	—22.75
Dried casein (buttermilk)	5	12,765		5	8,545		5	2,681	
Malted milk	7	1,178,746	— 6.57	6	1,020,772	9.90	6	1,143,352	35.54
Milk sugar (crude)	22	752,071	16.47	22	656,987	28.99	22	508,539	— 3.18
Ice cream of all kinds (gallons)	2,470	22,439,659	9.49	2,474	18,736,063	—12.87	2,480	13,548,318	24.70
Oleomargarine (uncolored):									
Animal and vegetable oil	44	15,659,448	— 7.98	44	16,707,735	5.81	44	16,154,422	—24.61
Exclusively vegetable oil	51	7,251,828	132.01	53	8,378,158	209.63	51	9,831,568	65.86
Exclusively animal oil	5	182,848	2.26	4	195,977	—4.40	6	484,567	7.69
Oleomargarine (colored):									
Animal and vegetable oil	28	599,696	43.61	29	711,734	66.29	29	575,351	14.04
Exclusively vegetable oil	7	875,726	5,941.99	8	1,156,642		10	87,152	
Exclusively animal oil	1	25,144	75.06	1	32,371	143.56	1	46,770	183.44

[1] The percentage given is based upon reports of those firms which reported for both years.

Heretofore both the preliminary and final quarterly dairy production reports have been issued in mimeograph form. The preliminary report will be continued in mimeograph form, but in the future the final report will appear in THE MARKET REPORTER.

DAIRYCONDITIONS IN SWITZERLAND.

The following excerpt from a letter to the Canadian Dairy and Cold Storage Branch of the Department of Agriculture from the Chief of the Swiss Federal Milk Office, dated November 21, 1919, indicates that Switzerland is not in a position to resume her exports of dairy prdoucts on an extensive scale. The table accompanying the letter shows to what a large extent her foreign trade has fallen off.

"Concerning the dairy conditions of this country (production of milk, cheese, and butter), we send you a copy of the half-year's report (January–June, 1919). You may see by these figures that the lowest point of milk production does not seem to be reached. At the present time the quantity of milk obtained from the producers is particularly low. We are just suffering very severely from an outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease. Although a few thousand cattle have already been killed, the disease could not be localized.

"Otherwise wo had hoped that better food conditions (more corn and cakes than last year) would allow a higher delivery of milk, and that production would decidedly start to increase. Now we must see first what setbacks the foot-and-mouth disease will cause. In any case we can not think of resuming our exports of cheese and condensed milk on a large scale. Possibly there will be some exportation merely for the purpose of resuming the commercial relations which have been cut off during the war. The information available to us shows that Denmark and Holland have plainly recovered and are producing nearly the prewar surplus for export. In Franco and Italy conditions are not so favorable, through lack of cattle, and especially through lack of milkers and other farm help. As for Germany and Austria, conditions are those of a hunger crisis."

Imports and exports of dairy products by Switzerland for the first 6 months of 1919 and for the years 1913 and 1918.

Commodity.	Imports.			Exports.		
	January–June, 1919.	1918	1913	January–June, 1919.	1918	1913
	Pounds.	*Pounds.*	*Pounds.*	*Pounds.*	*Pounds.*	*Pounds.*
Butter, fresh	57,200	47,960	11,092,400			54,560
Cheese:						
Soft	172,700	58,080	4,415,400		11,220	85,560
Hard	1,760	27,500	3,331,460	1,079,100	2,436,060	78,500,840
Green				220	227,480	908,160
Milk:						
Fresh	1,664,080	7,171,200	27,591,520	8,628,840	20,695,840	39,859,160
Condensed	7,920	2,200	268,400	6,780,840	43,728,960	89,228,700
Casein	86,020	440	399,080	1,980	952,380	7,920

FRUITS AND VEGETABLES

PRODUCE MARKETS ACTIVE.

Week Ending January 5.

Strong, Advancing Prices, Shipments Moderate, and New Lines Increasing Rapidly.

Active rising markets attended the closing week of 1919. Potatoes, sweet potatoes, and cabbage advanced. Other leading lines were steady to firm. Shipments showed increase, especially for potatoes, sweet potatoes, boxed apples, and new southern vegetables, but some other lines made slight to moderate losses. Total movement, 5,431 cars, compared with 4,558 last week.

Potatoes Much Higher.

Average gains of about 30 cents occurred in producing sections, and 15 to 60 cents in consuming markets. Offerings were rather light at shipping points, owing to weather or to disposition to hold for advance. Wisconsin, Minnesota, and Michigan No. 1 white stock rose about 35 cents, closing $3.50 to $3.80 f. o. b. shipping points. General range of jobbing and car-lot sales in consuming markets was $3.70 to $4, compared with $3.15 to $3.35 last week. Colorado sacked round whites gained about 50 cents, closing $3.60 to $3.80 f. o. b. Idaho sacked Rurals advanced sharply, closing $3.75 to $3.85 cash to growers, and Russets to $4 to $4.10. New York sacked round whites were about 25 cents higher in producing sections, reaching closing price of $3.70 to $3.90 per hundred pounds f. o. b., and strengthened in consuming markets to $3.35 to $4. Maine Green Mountains advanced to $3.25 to $3.30 f. o. b. sacked, at shipping points, and advanced about 40 cents in consuming markets, closing $3.45 to $3.80 in New York and Boston. Shipments increased to 1,896 cars, compared with 1,747 last week. States leading in volume were the same as in recent weeks, Maine shipping 646 and Wisconsin 285.

Cabbage Higher.

Most markets advanced at least $5 further, with fair demand and limited offerings. Choice Danish Seed stock closed $20 higher, at $85 to $90 per ton bulk f. o. b. shipping points western New York. Sales for future delivery reached $100. Consuming markets averaged $10 higher, ranging at the close $65 to $85 per ton bulk. New York domestic stock jobbed $50 to $65 and northern Holland Seed in middle-western markets $75 to $100. Shipments of old cabbage, 172 cars, against 175 last week; also 56 cars of new cabbage, compared with 12 cars last week. New cabbage still ranged mostly $4 per hundredweight.

Onions Generally Firm.

Price ranges continue wide, partly because of uncertain condition resulting from frost damage. Medium to large yellow stock ranged $5.50 to $6.25 f. o. b. western New York shipping points. General jobbing range for best grades of leading varieties was firm at $5.50 to $6.50, but Chicago was dull and draggy at $4.75 to $5.50. Shipments were 178 cars, an increase of 51. About two-thirds of the movement was from Massachusetts, California, and Ohio.

Apples Steady.

Shipping points became a little more active and tone slightly better. Baldwins A 2½ from cold storage sold at $7.50 per barrel f. o. b. producing sections western New York. Prevailing jobbing range for best lots held at $7 to $8. New York Greenings A 2½ were firm at $9 to $9.50 in most markets. Southeastern York Imperials A 2½ ranged $8 to $8.25 in Baltimore. Middle-western Ben Davis ranged $7 to $7.25. Northwestern boxed Jonathans, extra fancy, sold fairly steady in leading jobbing markets at $2.75 to $3.25. Washington extra-fancy Winesaps ranged $2.75 to $2.85 f. o. b. shipping points, while auction and jobbing sales ranged $2.20 to $3.25. Shipments of boxed apples were 669 cars, compared with 617 last week. Barreled section shipped 209 cars, an increase of 24. Washington shipped 429 cars; New York, 121; Maine, 29.

Other Fruits and Vegetables.

Virginia and Maryland sweet potatoes, yellow varieties, again strengthened, ranging $5.50 to $6 per barrel in Baltimore. New Jersey yellow stock gained fully 25 cents, closing $2.25 to $2.75 per hamper in leading consuming markets. Tennessee Nancy Halls were firm at $1.50 to $2. Shipments were 326 cars, chiefly from the northern producing States, compared with 215 last week and 354 the week preceding. Florida Big Boston lettuce strengthened at shipping points, with sales of desirable stock at $2 per 1½-bushel hamper f. o. b., compared with recent low point of $1.20. Consuming markets strengthened to mostly $2.50 to $3.50. California lettuce was slightly stronger at $2.50 to $4 in most markets. Shipments were 207 cars, as against 152 last week. Orange shipments increased to 907 cars, compared with 703 last week. Florida shipped 436. Grapefruit shipments were 127 cars; celery shipments, 131; 38 cars from New York and 93 from California. Florida tomato movement increased to 21 cars.

CABBAGE IN WESTERN NEW YORK.

The movement of cabbage was light during the past week, caused chiefly because of the New Year holiday and the very cold weather which prevented loading. Demand opened active at $67 to $75 with the market firm. On account of previous light shipments and cold weather, conditions improved considerably in consuming markets. The market strengthened rapidly, closing extremely strong at around $85, very few sales being made at $80 and a few as high as $90 early January shipment. The market generally was $85 on wire orders, with the week's business showing an approximate advance of around $15 per ton. A few cars of red cabbage are moving at $95 to $100 per ton.

From this time on weather conditions will play an important part in the marketing of York State cabbage. Continued winter weather will undoubtedly keep down shrinkage in storage and aid in maintaining the demand. Stock in good storage houses appears to be keeping satisfactorily, some holders reporting the average shrink around 17 to 18 per cent, and some estimating around 20 per cent.

Many owners appear to be perfectly satisfied to sell at prevailing prices or at the market from day to day, realizing that it is imperative that a steady daily movement be maintained. All owners are extremely optimistic as to the outcome, believing that Wisconsin supplies are insufficient, and that it is impossible for California, Florida, and Texas to ship enough stock sufficiently early to injure the prospects of northern holders. As evidence of the confidence attached, some sales have been made from one dealer to another at $80 per ton outweights, optional delivery.

The situation at present is very strong, with a heavy inquiry daily and cars sold about as quickly as loaded.

PRICES TO JOBBERS OF CERTAIN FRUITS AND VEGETABLES.

Market.	Week ending— Jan. 5, 1920.	Week ending— Dec. 29, 1919.	One year ago.
POTATOES, NO. 1 WHITE, SACKED, PER 100 POUNDS.			
New York (barrels)	$3.05-$3.35	$3.05-$3.15	$2.00-$2.40
Baltimore	3.25-3.35	3.25-3.35	2.00-2.35
Boston	3.40-3.80	3.15-3.45	2.25-2.40
Chicago [1]	3.30-3.80	3.25-3.50	[1] 1.80-1.90
Kansas City [1]	3.75-4.00	.....	1.85
St. Louis	3.40-4.00	3.10-3.50	1.85-2.10
West. New York	3.28-3.90	3.18-3.28	1.97-2.07
Wisconsin and Michigan [2]	3.25-3.70	3.15-3.30	1.70-1.80
SWEET POTATOES, YELLOWS, NEW JERSEY AND TENNESSEE, BUSHEL HAMPERS.			
New York	$2.25-$2.75	$1.75-$2.50	$2.00-$2.75
Baltimore	[3] 2.00-2.15	[4] 5.50-6.00	2.25-2.50
Boston	2.25-2.35	2.25-2.35	2.35-2.40
Chicago	2.50-2.60	1.65-1.75	2.15-2.50
Kansas City	1.40-1.85	1.30-1.50	2.00-2.25
St. Louis	.....	1.50-1.65	1.55-1.85
APPLES, NEW YORK BALDWINS, A 2½, AND MID-WEST BEN DAVIS, BARRELS.			
New York	$7.50-$8.50	$7.00-$8.50	$6.00-$7.00
Baltimore	6.75-7.00	7.00-7.25	5.75-6.00
Boston	7.00-7.50	7.00-7.50	5.50-7.00
Chicago	7.50-8.00	8.00-8.50	6.00-6.50
Kansas City	7.00-7.75	7.00-7.25	6.50-6.75
St. Louis	7.00	7.00-7.50	6.00-6.75
West. New York [2]	7.50	.....	6.00
APPLES, NORTHWESTERN JONATHANS, AND WINESAPS, EXTRA FANCY BOXES.			
New York	[6] $2.22-$3.50	[6] $3.25-$3.50	[6] $2.75-$3.15
Boston	3.50	3.00-3.25	[6] 3.00-3.25
Chicago	2.40-3.00	3.00-3.25	[6] 2.10-3.00
Kansas City	2.75-3.00	2.75-3.00	[6] 3.25
St. Louis	.....	.....	[5] 2.10-2.40
F. o. b. northwestern shipping points	2.75	[6] 2.85	[6] 2.30-2.65
ONIONS, NO. 1 YELLOW AND RED, SACKED, PER 100 POUNDS.			
New York	$5.50-$6.25	$5.00-$6.00	$1.25-$1.75
Baltimore	6.25-6.50	6.00-6.50	1.50-1.60
Boston	5.50-6.25	6.25-6.50	1.50-1.75
Chicago	4.75-5.25	5.25-5.50	1.50-1.70
Kansas City	5.75-6.25	6.00-6.25	1.50-1.75
St. Louis	5.50-6.00	5.75-6.00	1.35-1.50
West. New York [2]	6.00-6.25	6.00	1.60
CABBAGE, DANISH AND HOLLAND SEED, BULK, PER TON.			
New York	$80.00-$100.00	$75.00-$80.00	$15.00-$35.00
Baltimore	.....	70.00-80.00	15.00-20.00
Boston	[7] 5.00-5.50	[7] 4.75	25.00-30.00
Chicago	75.00-80.00	60.00-70.00	25.00-33.00
Kansas City	[8] 3.50-3.75	[8] 3.50	[8] 1.40-1.55
St. Louis	80.00-100.00	70.00-75.00	26.00-32.00
West. New York	70.00-90.00	65.00-75.00	22.00-23.00

[1] Car-lot sales.
[2] F. o. b. shipping points.
[3] ⅝-bushel hamper.
[4] Maryland's barrels.
[5] Auction sales included.
[7] Winesaps.
[8] Barrel.
[9] Bulbs per 100 pounds.

THE COLORADO CABBAGE SEASON.

Yield and Prices Fairly Satisfactory to Producers.

Shipments of the 1919 cabbage crop from the Greeley, Colo., section began in July, but, owing to dry weather, movement was moderate in August and did not reach height until the following month. By the end of October shipments were nearly over. It was a fairly satisfactory season for growers, because the yield per acre was greater than last season, the total crop being larger, although area decreased by about 1,000 acres.

Shipments exceeded those of the preceding season by 287 cars. During the active season 1,941 cars moved from the northern cabbage section of the State, compared with 1,654 cars last year. About four-fifths of the car-lot shipments were in crates; remaining stock was shipped in bulk.

The greater part of the crop was sold as usual in middle western and southwestern cities, including Chicago, Kansas City, St. Louis, Houston, Memphis, and New Orleans. Prices in Kansas City ranged by jobbing sales $2.50 to $2.75 per 100 pounds in August, $1.50 to $2.25 in September, and $1.50 to $2.25 in October. St. Louis quoted Colorado cabbage in early August at $55 to $60 per ton, but declined to $45, and then advanced toward the last of the month to $70 to $75, then again weakened, and at close of the season the best stock was selling at $45, and some low-grade kraut stock as low as $10. Chicago received only a moderate amount of Colorado cabbage, which started at $2.25 to $2.75 per 100 pounds, and did not at any time exceed $3.50 per barrel. Memphis opened the season at $4.50 per 100 pounds, but declined to $2.50 to $2.75 after the middle of September. Houston opened the season about the same as Memphis, but maintained a range of $3.50 to $4. New Orleans quoted early prices of $2.25 to $2.75 per 100 pounds advanced to $4.25 in early September, and then declined, closing the season at $1.75 to $2.25.

Varieties in the Colorado commercial cabbage section are mainly of Holland Seed class. Cash price to growers at leading shipping points was mostly $1.15 per 100 pounds bulk in August and early September, but declined to 80 cents to $1 by the middle of September, holding to that range until the last part of the month, when prices rapidly advanced, closing the month, and practically the season, at $1.25 to $1.50.

LOW PRICE OF MAINE POTATOES.

Two notable features of the Aroostook County potato season, during the period in which the Bureau of Markets conducted a field station at Presque Isle, Me., were the firm tone of the markets despite heavy arrivals, and the low prices which prevailed compared with prices in other producing sections.

The crop estimate of approximately 50,000,000 bushels less than last season probably had something to do with the firm trend in consuming markets, but few reasons were evident as to why Maine stock should average from 10 to 25 cents per 100 pounds less than New York and middle-western stock. During the fall months, some blight developed in the Green Mountain and Spaulding Rose, and a number of cars which had left Aroostook in apparently good condition arrived in terminal markets more or less decayed, and dealers became a little hesitant regarding these varieties. When cool weather set in this trouble disappeared almost entirely, yet prices did not advance relatively with those in other producing sections or in terminal markets.

Quality this season in Maine was especially good, although with a tendency toward oversize. At first it was thought blight might cause considerable damage, but it did not develop as feared and probably 15 per cent is a conservative estimate of damage by rot.

The season started much earlier than last year, shipments totaling 956 cars to September 1, compared with only 91 in 1918. At the end of December, Maine potato shipments were 11,492 cars, compared with 7,929 the same date a year ago.

Prices f. o. b. at shipping points dropped from $1.89 and $2.02 per 100 pounds the latter part of September, the opening of the shipping season to $1.65 and $1.87 the third week in October, advanced slowly to $2.28 and $2.34 the latter part of November. Advances continued until the close of the year when the price was $2.65 to $2.80. A year ago the price was $1.90 to $2.05, the last of October and had declined to $1.78 to $1.82 at the end of December.

CAR-LOT SHIPMENTS OF FRUITS AND VEGETABLES.

Week Ending Jan. 5, 1920.

Commodity.	Week of Dec. 30-Jan. 5, inclusive.		December—		November—		October—		Season to Dec. 31—	
	This season.	Last season.	1919	1918	1919	1918	1919	1918	1919	1918
Apples (boxed)	669	273	3,128	3,088	9,867	6,380	14,623	9,854	31,975	22,303
Apples (barreled)	209	379	1,725	3,160	4,742	7,134	15,217	16,242	32,217	34,881
Cabbage	228	218	1,313	1,371	2,242	3,296	4,717	5,051	20,904	25,667
Cauliflower	125	24	396	156	230	544	184	90	856	789
Celery	131	103	1,085	1,013	1,165	938	823	619	5,524	5,606
Dry beans	154	150	741	862	889	839	939	929	3,068	2,868
Grapefruit	127	176	724	696	1,450	1,007	838	1,050	3,029	2,874
Lemons	58	84	721	423	649	498	616	1,465	2,284	
Lettuce	207	140	891	628	565	319	353	123	1,469	806
Mixed and bunched vegetables	216	[1] 103	1,056	[1] 137	1,180	(1)	1,060	(1)	11,555	[1] 208
Onions	178	144	980	1,017	1,693	2,410	2,676	4,211	16,634	18,479
Oranges	909	1,450	6,976	7,148	4,344	1,335	2,594	969	10,759	12,003
Sweet potatoes	326	200	1,433	1,232	2,310	1,500	2,647	1,951	10,620	7,493
Tomatoes	21	9	31	23	401	284	1,864	1,361	45	15
White potatoes	1,895	1,524	8,637	8,757	15,741	15,310	28,776	24,869	114,470	116,653
Total	5,431	4,977	29,200	30,012	47,342	44,942	77,809	67,935	264,590	250,929

[1] Incomplete.

AVERAGE PRICES OF PRODUCE, 1919.

[Sales to jobbers during active shipping season for best grades of 10 lines of vegetables and fruits.]

	New York.	Boston.	Baltimore.	Chicago.	St. Louis.
Danish or Holland seed cabbage, bulk, ton, Sept.-Dec.	$44.00	.....	$43.00	$13.00	.....
Cantaloupes, crates, June-Sept.	4.43	$2.40	3.75	3.50	$1.50
Celery, California, crates, Jan—Apr.	9.10	12.50	10.25	10.50	8.66
Celery, Florida, crates, Jan.-May.	5.85	.....	5.70	5.78	4.40
Lettuce, California, crates, Jan.-May.	4.55	.....	3.62½	4.30	3.50
Lettuce, Florida, ½-bushel hamper, Jan.-Apr.	4.45	4.12½	3.87½	4.57	4.35
Onions: Yellow, sacked, per 100 pounds, July-Dec.	4.05	4.15	4.25	4.20	3.62
Southern, standard crates, Mar.-June	4.50	.....	4.75	3.75	3.25
Strawberries, 24-quart crates, Apr.-June	5.50	4.25	4.50	5.25	5.00
Tomatoes, 4-6 basket carriers, Apr.-June	3.75	4.00	3.75	4.00	4.00
Watermelons, bulk, per car, June-Sept.	4.30	3.50	3.60	3.85	5.60

WESTERN SLOPE POTATOES.

The potato season and market in the Colorado western slope section was apparently satisfactory to growers. Prices were considered good, and yield was fair. There was some damage from Fusarium, especially in the Delta, Montrose district; otherwise quality was generally good.

Shipments to November 28 from the western slope numbered 2,665 cars, exceeding the same period of a year ago by 291 cars. One hundred and sixty-two cities in 19 States received these potatoes, Kansas and Texas getting the largest number of cars.

Wagonload track-side prices paid the growers for United States grade No. 1 at the opening of the season ranged from $1.50 to $2 per hundred pounds throughout the district. Prices showed steady gain, advancing about $1 by the last of November. Generally the Red McClures brought top prices, with a premium of from 10 to 15 cents, and occasionally 20 cents, per hundredweight over Russets.

CAR-LOT SHIPMENTS OF PINEAPPLES.

	1917	1918	1919
Florida:			
Boynton	.....	2	7
Del Ray	6	28	35
Fort Pierce	2	.....	.....
Jacksonville	22	.....	2
Key West	.....	111	7
Little River	3	.....	1
M. P.-A-257	.....	.....	26
M. P.-A-313	.....	.....	2
M. P.-A-311	.....	.....	11
Stuart	12	14	42
Viking	.....	.....	1
Total	45	155	136
Louisiana, New Orleans	1	2	3
Massachusetts, Boston	4	.....	.....
Cuba:			
Armenteros	1	.....	.....
Artimesa	.....	3	.....
Bainoa	4	1	.....
Canas	1	2	.....
Habana	3	12	.....
Paula	1	.....	.....
Total	10	18	.....
New York:			
New York	125	94	53
St. George lighterage	15	.....	.....
Total	140	94	53
Maryland, Baltimore	.....	.....	1
New Jersey, Jersey City	374	220	1

GRAIN, HAY, AND FEED

HAY MARKET NOTES.

Week Ending January 3, 1920.

Increased Receipts of Hay Cause Dull Markets.—With the exception of one or two of the large hay markets the increased receipts of hay together with the usual post-holiday dullness have caused an easier feeling in the market situation on hay.

Eastern Markets.—The receipts of hay in the principal eastern markets, Philadelphia, Boston, and Baltimore, have been comparatively heavy during the past week. The stocks in warehouses and railroad terminals while not excessive are equal to the demand, so that with the increased receipts and the limited demand the market is rather dull on all grades except No. 1 clover which is very scarce and in good demand.

Richmond.—Reports from Richmond show light stocks and light receipts and a good demand for all grades, but especially for clover and clover mixed hay.

Atlanta.—Sixty-nine cars of hay were officially inspected in Atlanta during the week of which 21 graded No. 1 timothy and 7 graded No. 1 alfalfa. On account of the rather heavy stocks the demand is generally slow, but there appears to be a better demand for timothy than alfalfa at the present time as the prices asked for alfalfa are considered too high. Stocks of No. 2 alfalfa are reported rather heavy. The volume of business is reported as much below other years due partly because surrounding markets are buying direct from large shipping centers rather than from Atlanta.

Cincinnati.—Cincinnati reports an unusual demand for this season of the year causing an advance during the week of $1.50 per ton on timothy and a new high record of the crop for local alfalfa. The high prices were well maintained also on clover and clover mixed hays.

Receipts for the week were 226 cars. Shippers report lack of sufficient cars. Severe cold weather stimulated the demand and buyers took all offerings freely regardless of quality.

Chicago.—Liberal receipts and a light demand at Chicago during the early part of the week caused a decline in prices about $1 per ton, but the advent of severe cold weather, together with lighter receipts, created a better demand both locally and for shipment and the market advanced again to about last week's quotations. Receipts for week 274 cars timothy, 60 cars prairie, with 1 car alfalfa.

St. Louis.—Reports from St. Louis show receipts of hay as moderate, with a good demand for all the better grades. Sales of lower grades and grassy hay are rather slow and are mostly to shippers. Local buyers are taking the higher grades. Clover hay is very scarce and in urgent demand.

Buffalo.—There are practically no stocks of hay in Buffalo. Offerings and receipts are very light and there is an excellent demand.

Kansas City.—Receipts of hay at Kansas City for the week were heavy, being next to the highest on record and the market ruled dull. The supply of prairie hay at times was in excess of the demand and prices declined from $1 to $1.50 from the previous week's quotation. The quality of the hay arriving was rather low which, together with the heavy receipts, caused a heavier discount than usual on these grades. The principal demand was from shippers, and it is reported that shipments from this market during the week were the heaviest in years.

Receipts of alfalfa were heavy, but the demand was also heavy, so that the price did not follow the decline in prairie. No. 1 alfalfa sold about 50 cents lower than at the close of the previous week.

Receipts of timothy were heavier with a good demand. Very little clover was to be had at any time.

Western Markets.—Denver and San Francisco report light demand for hay on account of milder weather, which is more favorable for grazing. Stocks and receipts are also light with market steady as to price.

Seattle.—Reports from Seattle show stocks so light in eastern Washington, Montana, and Idaho that, together with heavy snows, bad weather, and car shortage, which are curtailing movement, many cattle are on the verge of starvation. The situation seems to be improving, however, and more cars are being promised for hay. Demand in western Washington slow on account of mild weather and heavy stocks.

Minneapolis. Receipts of hay about normal at Minneapolis but were reported heavy at St. Paul when the market was weaker. Actual sales were about $1.50 lower than last week. The arrivals at both markets were principally prairie, but some timothy was also received. The car shortage is curtailing the movement from the country. The demand from Montana continues strong, but high freight rates make it impracticable to ship prairie to that territory from Minneapolis.

FEED MARKET NOTES.

Week Ending January 3, 1920.

Weather Affects Feed Demand.—The cold weather prevailing over the eastern and north central part of the country during the past week has caused an increased demand for all feeds in those sections. In markets having light stocks this increased demand has caused slight advances in prices on some of the principal feeds.

Wheat Mill Feeds.—The eastern markets on bran and middlings are all rather quiet. Boston reports a surplus of both feeds with but little demand for car-lot shipments. New England jobbers report some demand

(Continued on page 32.)

WHOLESALE FEED PRICES AT MANUFACTURING CENTERS.

January 10, 1920.

[Per ton in bags for straight car lots f. o. b. cities listed.]

Spring wheat bran, Minneapolis	$13.25
Spring wheat middlings, Minneapolis	41.25
Hard winter wheat bran:	
Kansas City	10.00
St. Louis	42.75
Hard winter wheat middlings:	
Kansas City	47.00
St. Louis	49.00
Soft winter wheat bran:	
Cincinnati	45.00
Baltimore	52.00
Richmond	52.00
Soft winter wheat middlings:	
Cincinnati	54.00
Richmond	52.00
Cottonseed meal (36 per cent protein), Atlanta	70.00
Linseed meal, Minneapolis	82.60
Alfalfa meal:	
Kansas City	10.50
St. Louis	12.00
Gluten feed, Chicago	69.00

WHOLESALE PRICES OF HAY AND FEED, JAN. 3, 1920, AT SOME OF THE PRINCIPAL DISTRIBUTING MARKETS.

[In dollars per ton.]

City.	Hay (in carload lots).										Feed (in lots of 1 ton or over).														
	No. 1 timothy.	Standard timothy.	No. 2 timothy.	No. 1 light clover mixed.	No. 1 clover mixed.	No. 1 clover.	No. 1 alfalfa.	No. 2 alfalfa.	No. 1 prairie upland.	No. 2 prairie midland.	No. 1 wheat and oat hay.	Spring wheat bran.	Soft winter wheat bran.	Hard winter wheat bran.	Spring wheat middlings.	Soft winter wheat middlings.	Hard winter wheat middlings.	Cottonseed meal (41 per cent protein).	Linseed meal.	Gluten feed.	Hominy feed.	Peanut meal (36 per cent protein).	No. 1 alfalfa meal.	Beet pulp.	Barley chops.	Rye middlings.
Boston	31.00	.....	28.00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	52.00	53.00	52.50	54.00	59.00	58.00	85.00	83.00	78.12	70.00	.....	51.00	65.00	.....	52.00
Buffalo	29.00	.....	28.00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	50.00	51.00	50.00	52.00	53.00	52.00	87.00	.....	76.50	67.00	.....	48.00	63.50	75.00	53.00
Philadelphia	33.00	32.00	30.50	30.50	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	50.50	51.50	50.50	52.00	59.00	57.50	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Baltimore	32.50	31.50	30.50	30.00	28.50	31.00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	52.00	54.00	.....	54.00	65.00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	53.50	.....	.....	.....
Richmond	36.00	35.50	34.50	35.00	36.00	36.50	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	53.00	56.00	55.00	54.00	56.00	.....	84.00	.....	78.00	67.00	.....	49.00	61.00	.....	50.00
Atlanta	39.00	38.00	37.00	39.00	39.00	41.00	46.00	45.00	.....	.....	.....	.....	52.00	52.00	61.00	61.00	61.00	73.00	.....	.....	60.00	73.00	53.00	66.00	.....	.....
New Orleans	37.00	33.50	35.50	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	41.00	.....	.....	53.00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Cincinnati	33.00	32.50	32.00	32.75	32.00	37.00	40.00	36.00	.....	.....	.....	16.50	46.50	46.50	49.50	53.50	55.00	80.50	81.50	71.50	63.00	.....	45.50	62.50	69.50	50.00
St. Louis	32.00	30.50	28.00	30.50	31.00	36.00	40.00	36.00	28.00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	80.00	86.00	.....	.....	64.00	.....	65.00	.....	.....
Kansas City	28.75	27.75	26.25	27.75	.....	.....	35.75	29.00	22.50	17.25	.....	.....	.....	42.00	.....	.....	49.00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Chicago	31.00	29.75	28.75	29.75	28.75	29.00	34.50	33.50	28.00	18.00	.....	17.50	47.50	47.50	49.50	49.50	49.50	84.00	87.00	.....	.....	.....	46.50	.....	73.25	.....
Minneapolis	28.00	.....	26.50	.....	25.50	25.50	.....	.....	27.00	22.00	.....	15.25	.....	.....	46.25	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Denver	30.00	28.00	.....	.....	.....	.....	28.00	26.00	27.00	26.00	.....	14.00	44.00	.....	.....	.....	.....	89.00	100.00	.....	.....	.....	40.00	.....	65.00	.....
San Francisco	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	25.50	.....	.....	24.50	.....	49.50	.....	.....	66.00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	40.00	.....	74.00	.....
Seattle	30.00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	27.00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....

WEEKLY REPORT OF GRAIN EXPORTS BY GRADE.

From Principal Ports of the United States for Week Ending Jan. 3, 1920.

[Bushels; 000 omitted.]

Subclass and grade.	New York.	Philadelphia.	Baltimore.	Other Atlantic and Gulf ports.	Pacific ports.	Total week ending Jan. 3, 1920.
WHEAT.						
Hard Winter:						
No. 1	....	....	11	....	....	11
No. 2	....	....	32	....	....	32
No. 3	....	....	....	233	....	233
All others	....	....	67	67	....	134
Total Hard Red Winter	....	....	**110**	**300**	....	**410**
Red Winter:						
No. 2	399	201	51	555	....	1,206
No. 3	....	36	189	578	....	803
All others	....	....	160	129	....	289
Total Soft Red Winter	**399**	**237**	**400**	**1,262**	....	**2,298**
Mixed wheat:						
No. 2	89	48	....	....	....	128
All others	123	....	....	....	....	123
Total Mixed wheat	**203**	**48**	....	....	....	**251**
Ungraded wheat	....	....	....	....	326	326
Total, week ending Jan. 3, 1920	734	285	510	1,562	326	3,682
Total, week ending Dec. 27, 1919	531	279	354	331	....	1,595
BARLEY.						
Ungraded:						
Feed	....	....	....	67	....	67
Malting	....	50	42	50	....	142
Not specified	287	....	....	....	....	287
Total week ending Jan. 3, 1920	287	50	42	117	....	496
Total week ending Dec. 27, 1919	65	....	....	....	....	....
OATS.						
No. 2 white clipped	30	100	....	....	....	130
Bonded Canadian	....	....	....	120	....	120
Total week ending Jan. 3, 1920	30	100	....	120	....	250
Total week ending Dec. 27, 1919	....	....	....	20	....	....
RYE.						
No. 2 Western	....	....	50	....	....	50
Ungraded	49	....	....	....	....	49
Total week ending Jan. 3, 1920	49	....	50	....	....	99
Total week ending Dec. 27, 1919	536	....	....	264	....	....
CORN.						
No. 3 mixed	20	....	17	....	....	37
Total week ending Jan. 3, 1920	20	....	17	....	....	37
BUCKWHEAT.						
Ungraded	58	....	....	....	....	58
Total week ending Jan. 3, 1920	58	....	....	....	....	58

EXPORTS OF GRAIN BY GRADE, JULY 4 TO DEC. 27, 1919.

From Principal Ports of the United States.

[Bushels; 000 omitted.]

WHEAT.

Port of shipment.	No. 1.	No. 2.	No. 3.	No. 4.	No. 5.	Sample grade.	Total.
Atlantic ports:							
Boston	164,466	2,742,704	91,335	1,100	....	97,923	3,097,528
New York	113,831	11,750,171	6,588,665	....	....	....	18,452,667
Philadelphia	472,306	8,472,873	4,796,488	....	60,000	120,615	13,922,282
Baltimore	703,467	5,827,791	7,138,531	399,128	....	....	14,068,917
Newport News [1]	....	293,300	269,250	....	....	....	562,550
Total	1,454,070	29,086,839	18,884,269	400,228	60,000	218,538	50,103,944
Gulf ports:							
New Orleans	752,081	2,797,610	909,563	....	....	....	4,459,254
Galveston [2]	....	225,000	1,296,953	152,367	....	....	1,674,320
Total	752,081	3,022,610	2,206,516	152,367	....	....	6,133,574
Pacific ports:							
Seattle	13,695	209,857	4,342	....	....	....	227,894
Tacoma	35,333	....	....	....	....	....	35,333
Astoria	49,099	265,993	70,953	13,240	....	....	399,285
Portland	250,165	819,268	4,530	....	....	86,621	1,160,584
San Francisco	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Total	348,292	1,295,118	79,825	13,240	....	86,621	1,823,096
Total, all ports	2,554,443	33,404,567	21,170,610	565,835	60,000	305,159	[3] 58,060,614

[1] Exports from Newport News beginning Nov. 14, 1919.
[2] Exports from Galveston beginning Nov. 30, 1919.
[3] The above total for all grain shipped includes 1,147,046 Hard Red Spring wheat, 435,847 Durum wheat, 1,594,264 Hard Red Winter wheat, 51,559,550 Soft Red Winter wheat, 435,835 Common White wheat, 388,416 White Club wheat, and 2,499,656 Mixed wheat. In addition to this total there were 6,039 bushels Red Walla shipped from Portland, which was ungraded.

OATS.

Port of shipment.	No. 2.		No. 3.		Ungraded.	Total.
	White.	White clipped.	White.	White clipped.		
Boston	....	269,505	1,211,585	159,607	567,989	2,208,686
New York	217,212	1,555,607	6,535,510	2,780,897	....	11,089,226
Philadelphia	....	329,626	573,397	1,488,517	....	2,391,540
Baltimore	189,468	123,567	1,142,570	....	....	1,455,545
Newport News [1]	54,546	97,307	114,000	....	....	265,853
New Orleans	50,000	....	500,000	500,000	....	1,050,000
Total	511,166	2,375,612	10,077,062	4,929,021	567,989	[2] 18,460,850

[1] Exports from Newport News beginning Nov. 14, 1919.
[2] In addition to above there were shipped 7,590 bushels of No. 4 Canadian wheat in bond.

BARLEY.

Port of shipment.	Superior to No. 1 standard California.	Choice California.	Ungraded.			Miscellaneous grades. [1]	Total.
			Brewing.	Malting.	Not specified.		
Boston	....	....	....	....	2,447,747	....	2,447,747
New York	....	....	....	....	4,280,414	....	4,280,414
Philadelphia	....	....	....	503,121	66,555	371,111	940,787
Baltimore	....	....	....	243,339	1,864,145	41,667	2,149,151
Newport News [2]	....	....	....	66,611	....	....	66,611
New Orleans	4,033,761	654,323	....	....	....	356,761	5,044,845
San Francisco	....	....	1,379,324	....	982,960	....	2,362,284
Total	4,033,761	654,323	1,379,324	813,071	9,641,821	769,539	17,291,839

[1] The above "Miscellaneous grades" include 333,428 bushels standard A, 145,730 bushels standard B, 1,045 bushels standard C, 23,333 bushels standard No. 1 California, 105,221 bushels standard malting, 20,000 bushels Canadian feed, 8,036 No. 4 Canadian western, and 131,746 bushels barley feed.
[2] Exports from Newport News beginning Nov. 14, 1919.

CORN.

Port of shipment.	Mixed.		Sold by sample.	Ungraded.	Total.
	No. 1.	No. 2.			
New York	42,995	....	....	675	43,670
Philadelphia	....	65,973	....	....	65,973
Baltimore	....	47,397	3,000	....	50,397
Total	42,995	113,370	3,000	675	160,040

RYE.

Port of shipment.	No. 2.	No. 2, Western.	Ungraded.	Total.
Boston	....	....	399,371	399,371
New York	729,999	....	2,537,374	3,267,373
Philadelphia	....	263,663	30,000	293,663
Baltimore	318,075	1,227,892	....	1,545,967
Newport News [1]	....	752,510	....	752,510
Total	1,048,074	2,244,065	2,966,745	6,258,884

[1] Exports from Newport News beginning Nov. 14, 1919.

SEEDS

SEED MARKET NOTES.

Week Ending January 3, 1920.

There was an upward trend of prices in a number of kinds of field seeds in the cities included in the accompanying price table. Most of the cities indicated a sharp advance in the price of alsike clover and somewhat smaller advances in red clover, white clover, alfalfa, timothy, redtop, rape, seed corn, and seed oats.

Clovers.—The local demand for red, alsike, white, and sweet clover has not shown much life yet, but the distant demand coming from city and country merchants who are in the habit of buying 50 bags or more of seed at a time has continued to be good. There has been a fair to good export demand for alsike clover, and Baltimore reports a fair export demand for white clover also. The imports of red clover during the week have been large. During the past two months more than 3½ million pounds of red clover and more than 1½ million pounds of alsike clover were permitted entry into the United States.

Alfalfa.—The distant demand for alfalfa has continued to be good to excellent, and stocks of domestic seed are reported smaller than normal. The arrivals of imported alfalfa during the week have been large. During the past two months nearly 3 million pounds were permitted entry. Some Russian alfalfa is reported due at Seattle during February.

Grasses.—A good export demand for timothy in New York and a fair one in Toledo and Milwaukee are reported. The local and distant demand for timothy has been only fair, but prices have advanced 50 cents to $1 per 100 pounds in several of the markets. No unusually large or small demand for any of the other grasses is noted in any of the cities.

Millets.—Very little change from last week is noted in the millet market. The movement of this seed from primary shipping points has been much below normal in western Kansas and normal or somewhat below normal in western Nebraska, and above normal in northeastern Colorado.

Seed grains.—Some difficulty is being experienced in a few of the cities, particularly in Minneapolis, to obtain heavy seed oats and barley, and prices on these seeds have advanced somewhat during the week. Not much information is available yet on the germination of seed corn, but the quality appeared to be very good last fall at picking time.

SUPPLY AND MOVEMENT OF SORGO SEED.

A considerably larger production of amber, orange, and sumac sorgo or "cane" seed than that of last year is indicated in the extensive reports that have been received. The increase in production is attributed to a somewhat larger acreage than was harvested last year for seed, together with a much better yield per acre than last year. It seems to be the general impression that a large crop of sorgo seed is available in the Panhandle of Texas, western Oklahoma, and southwestern Kansas, which are normally among the heaviest sorgo-seed producing sections in the United States. Average yields per acre of 1,000 to 1,325 pounds of the principal kinds

WHOLESALE PRICES OF FIELD SEEDS, JAN. 3, 1920.

[In dollars per 100 pounds, except seed grains, which are per bushel.]

Prices given are for high qualities of seed offered by seedsmen. Obviously it is impossible to give prices that represent the same quality and origin of seed in each of the cities.

Kind of seed.	New York.	Baltimore.	Richmond.	Buffalo.	Toledo.	Louisville.	Chicago.	Minneapolis.	St. Louis.	Kansas City.	Denver.	Salt Lake City.	Seattle.	Memphis.	Ave. for U. S. same date last yr.
Clovers:															
Red clover	50.00	52.50	52.75	52.00	52.60	53.00	51.50	53.00	53.00	53.50	.....	52.50	56.00	56.00	42.65
Alsike clover	54.00	55.00	54.00	53.25	53.90	55.00	52.50	54.50	52.00	54.00	51.00	54.00	60.00	.....	33.00
White clover	63.00	55.00	60.00	59.75	65.00	65.00	55.50	63.50	65.00	62.50	59.00	57.00	68.00	.....	48.00
Crimson clover	10.00	10.00	12.00	12.50	....	11.50	11.00	.....	15.00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	21.00
Sweet clover	30.00	30.00	34.00	30.25	32.00	32.00	29.00	31.00	32.00	31.50	32.00	30.00	.....	.....	23.50
Bur clover (hulled)	.....	28.00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	25.00	15.00
Lespedeza	.....	25.00	31.00	.....	.....	30.00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	29.50	24.00
Alfalfa	35.50	40.00	42.50	11.00	12.50	44.00	10.00	16.00	41.00	12.00	36.00	39.50	42.00	45.00	20.50
Grasses:															
Timothy	13.50	13.15	13.00	13.25	13.25	13.00	12.50	13.00	13.25	14.00	13.00	13.50	17.00	13.00	11.10
Redtop	19.50	20.00	20.00	19.75	21.00	22.00	19.00	22.00	20.00	20.50	22.00	.....	25.00	23.50	14.25
Kentucky bluegrass	28.00	26.00	27.00	26.25	27.50	28.00	28.00	.....	31.00	28.50	29.00	29.00	35.00	.....	22.25
Orchard grass	23.50	25.00	26.25	25.00	28.00	25.00	24.00	26.00	25.00	25.00	28.00	27.00	28.00	30.00	27.00
Meadow fescue	40.00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	40.00	.....	.....	30.00	36.00	.....	.....	.....	25.00
Bromus inermis	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	35.00	28.00	.....	.....	31.00	.....	.....	.....	23.50
Millets:															
Golden millet	5.50	4.50	5.50	4.75	4.50	7.00	4.60	4.20	4.75	4.25	5.25	.....	7.50	5.75	5.50
Common millet	4.50	3.50	.....	4.00	.....	.....	3.50	3.20	3.35	3.25	4.00	.....	.....	.....	.....
Siberian millet	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3.40	3.40	3.35	3.25	4.50	.....	.....	.....	.....
Hungarian millet	7.75	5.00	.....	7.50	5.50	.....	5.00	7.25	4.50	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	6.25
Japanese millet	8.25	7.00	.....	7.75	6.00	.....	9.00	7.50	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	5.00
Broom-corn millet	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3.40	3.50	.....	3.35	3.25	.....	.....	.....	2.85
Sorgos:															
Amber sorgo (cane)	.....	3.75	4.75	.....	.....	.....	3.35	4.00	.....	3.00	3.25	.....	.....	3.50	4.00
Orange sorgo	.....	3.75	5.00	.....	.....	.....	4.00	.....	.....	3.25	.....	.....	.....	3.50	4.10
Sumac sorgo	.....	.....	8.00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3.50	.....	.....	.....	.....	5.85
Sudan grass	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	13.50	12.75	13.50	13.00	13.00	12.50	.....	18.00	14.75	14.25
Rape	11.00	11.00	12.00	11.50	10.00	12.00	10.50	10.75	10.50	11.00	.....	.....	10.00	12.25	10.50
Vetches:															
Hairy vetch	27.00	26.00	30.50	27.50	30.00	.....	25.00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	30.00	.....	18.50
Common vetch	8.50	11.00	.....	12.00	15.00	.....	10.00	8.75	.....	.....	.....	.....	10.00	.....	8.25
Peas:															
Canada field peas	6.50	6.00	.....	6.00	6.25	.....	5.40	.....	7.00	6.00	.....	.....	5.00	.....	6.25
Cowpeas	.....	6.00	7.75	.....	.....	10.00	9.50	.....	7.00	10.00	.....	.....	.....	.....	5.75
Beans:															
Soy beans	.....	6.00	6.75	.....	10.00	7.00	8.30	8.50	7.50	7.75	.....	.....	.....	6.25	6.00
White field beans	.....	8.00	.....	.....	.....	.....	7.75	8.40	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	6.00
Velvet beans	.....	.....	5.75	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	5.35	1.75
Cotton seed	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	9.75	7.25
Seed potatoes	.....	2.50	4.25	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	7.00	.....	5.00	4.00	3.25
Seed grains:															
Seed corn	.....	.....	2.85	.....	3.75	4.00	.....	3.50	2.05	.....	3.35	.....	4.50	3.25	2.85
Seed wheat	.....	2.75	.....	.....	4.05	.....	.....	3.80	.....	.....	5.60	.....	2.85	.....	2.75
Seed oats	.....	1.15	1.25	1.25	1.25	1.10	1.15	1.25	1.10	.....	1.60	.....	1.35	1.15	1.00
Seed barley	.....	2.20	.....	2.10	1.80	.....	1.85	2.90	2.00	.....	.....	.....	2.50	.....	1.65
Seed rye	.....	1.75	1.85	.....	.....	.....	.....	2.25	2.10	.....	2.25	.....	2.25	.....	2.40
Seed buckwheat	.....	1.80	2.00	1.80	.....	.....	1.75	1.80	1.80	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1.85

PRODUCTION OF VEGETABLE SEEDS FOR 1919.

The figures given for 1919 in the following table represent in the main a compilation of reports received from commercial growers giving the estimated (actual wherever possible) average yield per acre and total production of each vegetable seed crop grown by them. Those given for 1918 and 1917 were compiled from reports submitted in vegetable seed acreage and production surveys. They have been published previously in the Seed Reporter and are given here for comparison:

Kind of seed.	Commercial acreage planted.			Average yield per acre, based on acreage planted.			Commercial production.		
	1919	1918	1917	1919, estimated.	1918	1917	1919, estimated.	1918	1917
	Acres.	*Acres.*	*Acres.*	*Pounds.*	*Pounds.*	*Pounds.*	*Pounds.*	*Pounds.*	*Pounds.*
Beans, dwarf snap	48,658	72,831	63,521	515	401	231	25,093,000	29,215,515	14,800,000
Beans, garden pole (not including lima)	7,957	7,482	4,029	540	691	315	4,395,000	5,166,159	1,268,000
Beet, garden	2,666	2,801	826	697	896	562	1,858,000	2,509,391	464,000
Beet, mangel	610	424	20	1,003	677	1,501	621,000	286,974	30,000
Beet, sugar	11,139	6,014	4,638	600	980	1,094	6,700,000	5,900,000	5,076,000
Cabbage	1,978	1,383	737	700	117	393	1,383,000	161,629	292,000
Carrot	3,465	4,894	1,965	150	471	571	1,562,000	2,125,060	1,129,000
Celery	135	176	84	100	223	335	54,000	40,201	28,100
Cucumber	3,582	3,177	4,694	214	173	218	766,300	548,044	1,026,000
Kale	106	49	18	406	342	250	43,000	16,744	1,500
Lettuce	2,283	2,291	1,979	298	326	457	679,800	746,993	903,000
Muskmelon	1,467	1,671	1,827	102	117	161	149,900	196,142	293,000
Watermelon	5,508	10,423	8,929	90	92	71	500,000	959,549	633,000
Onion seed	6,730	7,260	3,782	389	232	259	2,618,000	1,685,258	980,000
Onion sets	3,708	3,818	2,637	5,900	12,066	11,851	21,900,000	46,068,711	31,250,000
Parsley	116	155	109	761	468	772	111,500	72,553	84,000
Parsnip	303	267	137	732	626	499	222,000	167,199	68,000
Peas, garden	101,172	102,095	110,129	160	560	444	17,968,000	58,127,253	48,858,000
Pepper	100	657	686	75	86	31	12,000	56,195	21,000
Pumpkin	1,156	1,380	1,512	95	96	72	110,300	132,612	108,000
Radish	10,870	8,760	3,521	233	221	176	2,537,000	1,935,017	621,000
Salsify	205	121	131	452	347	431	92,600	30,647	56,000
Spinach	1,139	1,259	1,415	317	287	220	361,000	1,650,008	300,000
Squash, summer	1,153	1,001	836	195	99	145	223,000	99,404	121,000
Squash, winter	2,912	2,534	1,328	152	51	70	443,400	128,385	93,000
Sweet corn	14,565	14,759	12,975	900	947	610	14,113,000	11,916,892	8,203,000
Tomato	3,601	3,832	3,204	67	80	92	243,000	307,815	297,000
Turnip, English	1,207	936	24	380	215	127	456,000	200,783	3,000
Turnip, Swede	205	279	21	602	98	418	123,200	27,312	8,700

of sorgo seed were reported in these sections, which quantities are somewhat greater than normal.

Harvesting and thrashing were delayed considerably because of inclement weather during November and the first half of December, and also because the growers handled a large crop of wheat before giving attention to the relatively less important sorgo-seed crop. It has been very difficult for growers and shippers of sorgo seed to estimate with any great degree of accuracy the quantity of this seed that would be available for planting next season because thrashing has been so retarded. During the last week of December, however, considerable progress was made in thrashing the crop because most of the snow had disappeared and mild weather prevailed. The car shortage, further aggravated by the fuel situation of several weeks ago, has made it impossible to move the wheat from the elevators which have been filled to their maximum capacity and to take care of the storage and movement of sorgo seed that have been thrashed.

Most of the prices received have been more or less nominal and have shown considerable variation, depending upon local and other conditions. In some counties having poor transportation facilities growers are being offered as little as $1.50 per 100 pounds, and in other counties where the production has been smaller than usual growers are being offered $3 or more for their seed. In general the prices being paid have been 25 to 75 cents per 100 pounds lower than those paid last year at a corresponding time. During the last of December and the first few days of January about $1.80 to $2 were being offered to growers for country-run amber, orange, and sumac sorgo seed in some of the largest seed-producing sections.

LESPEDEZA SEED MOVEMENT.

Reports from shippers and growers in producing sections indicate that the total quantity of lespedeza seed that will enter commercial channels this season is equal to, or slightly greater than, that of last season. In some sections heavy rains at harvest time resulted in the loss of much seed, but the quality of seed harvested was not materially affected.

North Alabama.—The production in north Alabama is somewhat less than last year, because of the decreased acreage harvested for seed. The movement from growers' hands is normal. Growers are receiving an average of $24 per 100 pounds for country-run seed and are reported to be selling their seed freely at this price.

North-Central Mississippi.—In North central Mississippi the acreage and yield per acre are reported to be slightly less than last year. Growers are being paid an average of $22 per 100 pounds for their lespedeza seed and the movement has been above normal, about 70 per cent having moved from the growers' hands.

West-Central Mississippi.—The total production in west central Mississippi is thought to be greater then in 1918, because of the larger acreage cut for seed and the higher yield per acre. The movement is below normal, because of continued rains which have delayed threshing. Growers are being offered $20 to $24 per 100 pounds and are selling their seed freely at the higher price.

Baton Rouge, La., and vicinity, including Wilkinson County, Miss.—The movement of lespedeza seed in this section has been normal to date and about 45 per cent of it is reported to be out of the growers' hands. The average price being paid to growers is $22 per 100 pounds, ranging from $20 to $24. Because of the continued rains during the fall months the acreage of lespedeza cut for seed in some counties in this section in 1919 was about 10 per cent less than last season, and the average yield per acre as reported about 110 pounds. In other counties, however, the acreage harvested for seed and the yield per acre are much greater than last season, and the indications are that the total commercial production for the entire district is larger than last season.

IMPORTS OF FORAGE PLANT SEEDS PERMITTED ENTRY INTO THE UNITED STATES.

UNDER THE SEED IMPORTATION ACT, COMPILED BY THE SEED LABORATORY OF THE BUREAU OF PLANT INDUSTRY, UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.

Kind of seed.	Month of December.		Month of November.		6 months ending Dec. 31.	
	1919	1918	1919	1918	1919	1918
	Pounds.	*Pounds.*	*Pounds.*	*Pounds.*	*Pounds.*	*Pounds.*
Alfalfa	1,808,800	.....	1,150,400	.....	6,962,900	76,700
Bluegrass:						
Canada	49,900	126,400	64,500	45,800	333,500	228,700
Bromegrass, awnless	23,400	.....	51,000	.....	74,400	.....
Clover:						
Alsike	900,000	562,400	698,500	732,400	4,044,700	3,638,400
Crimson	277,200	88,000	297,200	.....	5,124,600	308,100
Red	2,306,400	42,900	1,089,300	400,900	6,404,000	127,600
White	33,000	.....	11,200	.....	55,400	.....
Clover mixtures:						
White and alsike	1,200	33,200	14,200	.....	21,700	70,700
Red and alsike	.....	900	.....	.....	700	900
Alsike and timothy	84,300	13,900	120,900	73,400	205,200	87,300
Millet:						
Broom-corn	.....	.....	.....	.....	225,400	.....
Hungarian	7,000	.....	.....	.....	7,000	.....
Mixtures:						
Grass	100	.....	.....	.....	100	100
Orchard grass	317,200	.....	370,500	.....	1,443,300	.....
Rape	1,326,100	80,600	2,004,100	.....	3,515,000	232,700
Redtop	800	.....	.....	100	800	4,200
Ryegrass:						
English	370,100	.....	198,600	88,800	750,500	394,700
Italian	324,900	.....	66,100	.....	495,800	18,300
Timothy	.....	8,900	.....	1,900	3,200	52,300
Vetch:						
Hairy	91,000	8,800	32,000	6,000	199,300	202,200
Spring	125,900	.....	7,200	161,300	282,200	182,700

COMMERCIAL SUPPLY OF SEED VELVET BEANS.

The commercial supply of velvet beans available for seed purposes is reported to be about 40 to 50 per cent greater than in 1919, although only about 40 per cent of normal. Shippers are paying to growers in the principal seed velvet-bean producing sections of southern Alabama and Georgia $1.25 to $1.75 per 100 pounds for velvet beans in the pod, and $3.35 to $5 per 100 pounds for hulled velvet beans, with the trend of prices upward.

Although over 60 per cent of the crop is reported to have left the growers' hands, about one-half of the reports received indicates that the growers are not selling their velvet beans freely at this time, but have anticipated a stronger demand and are holding for higher prices. Shippers report an active demand from dealers at most of the large seed markets in the South. Many dealers are buying large stocks of seed velvet beans early, before all of the unhulled beans are bought by feed mills, and no shortage is anticipated as was the case last year.

The quality of the 1919 crop velvet beans for seed is good, several large shippers reporting the quality of their stocks as "very good" or "excellent."

IDENTIFICATION OF SEED OF ITALIAN ALFALFA AND RED CLOVER.[1]

Of the total quantity of alfalfa seed imported during the five months ending November 30, 1919, 97.6 per cent, or 5,031,400 pounds, and of red-clover seed, 88 per cent, or 3,644,500 pounds, came directly or indirectly from Italy. Because of the high proportion of Italian alfalfa and red-clover seed now being placed on the market in the United States it seems desirable that means be found for identifying this seed.

From a study made in the Seed Laboratory of the United States Department of Agriculture it was found that alfalfa and red clover seed of Italian origin may be identified by the presence of characteristic Italian incidental seeds and the absence of characteristic seeds of any other region of production. The samples used in these studies ranged from 200 to 1,000 grams each, the usual trade mail samples being too small to insure the presence of the characteristic seeds. Alfalfa seed was found to be less likely than red clover seed to contain these seeds.

The following six kinds of incidental seeds were found in both alfalfa and red clover seed from Italy that were not found in alfalfa or red clover seed from any other source: *Hedysarum coronarium;* a species of Galega, probably *Galega officinalis; Trifolium supinum*, an annual clover; *Cephalaria transylvanica* of the *Dipsicaceae;* a species of *Phalaris;* and an undetermined species of *Valerianella*, very similar to seed of *Valerianella dentata* but smaller, somewhat pubescent, and finely tubercled.

[1] Abstract from paper prepared by F. H. Hillman and Helen H. Henry of the Bureau of Plant Industry, and read before a meeting of the Official Seed Analysts of North America at St. Louis, Dec. 30, 1919.

COTTON

PRICES AND MOVEMENT OF AMERICAN COTTON.

During the week ending January 3, the cotton market has continued rather strong. Prices for middling spot cotton have varied from 40.12 cents on December 29 to 40.86 cents on January 3, as compiled from the averages of the 10 spot markets designated by the Secretary of Agriculture. The advance during the week to the highest average of the season, on January 3, was steady and without important setback. Advices continue to show a good demand for raw cotton and an especially strong demand for the higher grades.

Exports.

Figures indicate that the total exports from August 1, 1919, to January 2, 1920, amounted to 2,821,854 bales, against 1,894,481 bales and 2,111,248 bales in the two preceding years, respectively.

Exports of American cotton from August 1 to January 2:

To—	1919-20	1918-19	1917-18
	Bales.	*Bales.*	*Bales.*
Great Britain	1,460,132	1,090,252	1,303,072
France	309,628	278,726	295,479
Other countries[1]	1,052,094	615,303	512,697

[1] Exports direct to Germany from Aug. 1, 1919, to Nov. 30, 1919, were 122,631 bales, and to Austria for the same period, 33,867 bales.

Stocks of American cotton in foreign countries January 2:

	1919-20	1918-19	1917-18	1916-17
England:	*Bales.*	*Bales.*	*Bales.*	*Bales.*
Liverpool stocks	640,000	251,000	299,000	692,000
Manchesterstocks	91,000	51,000	21,000	93,000
Other countries	106,000	[1]15,000	171,000	[1]320,000

[1] Estimated owing to war conditions.

Cotton Freights.

Current freight rates for cotton on vessels of the United States Shipping Board are quoted as follows:

[Figures are for high density per 100 pounds.]

To—	From Atlantic ports.	From Gulf ports.
United Kingdom [1]	$1.35	$1.50
French Atlantic ports	1.60	1.75
Holland, Rotterdam	1.60	1.75
Belgium, Antwerp, Ghent	1.60	1.75
Germany, Bremen, Hamburg	1.85	2.00
Danzig	2.35	2.50
Denmark, Copenhagen	2.10	2.25
Sweden, Goteborg, Malmo	2.10	2.25
Sweden, Stockholm	2.60	2.75
Norway, Christiania	2.10	2.25
Finland, Helsingfors	2.60	2.75
Portugal, Lisbon, Oporto	1.60	1.75
French Mediterranean ports	2.10	2.25
Spain, Barcelona, Valencia	2.10	2.25
Italy, Genoa, Naples	1.85	2.00
Greece, Piraeus, Patras	3.35	3.50
Greece, Salonica	3.60	3.75
Venice, Trieste, Fiume	2.10	2.25

[1] Until further notice a surcharge of 25 cents per 100 pounds must be added to rates to Liverpool and London.

Cotton in standard bales will be taken only by special agreement as to rates and quantity. It is said that the extra charge for such bales varies between 25 cents and 50 cents per hundredweight.

Commercial differences in prices for various grades (according to reports to the Bureau of Markets) Jan. 3, 1920.

Grade.	For New York.	For New Orleans.
Middling Fair...points on middling	328	275
Strict Good Middling.....do	255	250
Good Middling.....do	190	200
Strict Middling.....do	105	125
Middling	Basis.	Basis.
Strict Low Middling ...points off middling.	243	300
Low Middling.....do	628	675
Strict Good Ordinary [1].....do	915	900
Good Ordinary [1].....do	1,153	1,125
Good Middling Yellow Tinged.do	230	75
Strict Middling Yellow Tinged.do	335	150
Middling Yellow Tinged [1].....do	195	350
Strict Low Middling Yellow Tinged [1] ...points off middling	710	650
Low Middling Yellow Tinged [1].do	998	1,025
Good Middling Yellow Stained.do	178	450
Strict Middling Yellow Stained[1] ...points off middling	618	575
Middling Yellow Stained [1].....do	755	700
Good Middling Blue Stained [1].do	585	550
Strict Middling Blue Stained [1].do	693	625
Middling Blue Stained [1].....do	835	750

[1] These grades are not tenderable on future contracts made subject to sec. 5 of the United States cotton futures act as amended, on the future exchanges at New York and New Orleans.

Stocks of Government-Classed Cotton at Future Markets.

Inspected cotton, Government classed, in warehouses in the ports of New York and New Orleans on December 31, 1919, of the grades tenderable on future contracts made on the exchanges in those markets subject to section 5 of the United States cotton futures act, as amended:

Grade.	New York.	New Orleans.
	Bales.	*Bales.*
Middling Fair	1	13
Strict Good Middling	32	238
Good Middling	404	1,728
Strict Middling	1,005	3,851
Middling	2,824	5,064
Strict Low Middling	6,060	2,904
Low Middling	3,282	1,167
Good Middling Yellow Tinged	130	246
Strict Middling Yellow Tinged	275	147
Good Middling Yellow Stained	1	2
Total	14,011	15,360

Long-Staple Cotton.

The market for extra-staple Delta cotton is reported to be from steady to strong. High grades especially are in request, but for low grades there is only moderate inquiry and prices thereon seem unchanged from last week's quotations. The premiums on high grade staples, however, were advanced about 50 points at New Orleans during the week; but the volume of business, due partly no doubt to the interruption of a three days' holiday in that market, was small. At Memphis, on the other hand, sales were reported large and at considerably increased premiums. Planters are said to be holding firmly for higher prices which are already being realized. One noteworthy sale is reported where cotton which was offered three weeks ago at 52 cents without a buyer was sold last week at 65 cents.

Below are given the premiums quoted in the New Orleans and Memphis markets for the staple lengths specified. The figures given below are based on sales during the week ending January 3, and are for middling cotton based on middling short staple at 40.25 in New Orleans and 40.50 in Memphis:

Length.	New Orleans (points on middling).	Memphis (points on middling).
1 1/16	600	560
1 1/8	1,500	1,380
1 3/16	2,500	3,304
1 1/4	3,550	1,060
1 5/16		1,900

Prices for Egyptian cotton have varied considerably. This appears to be due to the continued wide fluctuations in the Egyptian future market. Medium grade Sakellaridis cotton is quoted around 87 cents, cost, insurance, and freight, while the lower grades are being held at around 75 cents on the same terms.

Stocks of Egyptian cotton held in Alexandria, Egypt, on January 2, were as follows:

	Bales.
1919-20	250,000
1918-19	368,000
1917-18	320,000
1916-17	204,000

It is reported that the present season witnessed the virtual wiping out of the Sea Island crop, which was already rather hard hit the year before. This situation is attributed chiefly to the boll weevil. It is stated that this branch of the general cotton crop stands a poor chance of competing against the boll weevil, because it grows in a section of the belt peculiarly liable to weevil infection, owing to its mild and humid climate. Prior to December 13, 1919, only about 6,500 bales of Sea Island cotton had been ginned. Quotations for Sea Island cottons for the past week were around 85 cents per pound for extra choice, or No. 2.

Comparative summary of Sea Island cotton production.

Year.	Bales.	Year.	Bales.
1918-19	52,208	1913-14	77,563
1917-18	92,619	1912-13	73,777
1916-17	117,556	1911-12	119,263
1915-16	91,844	1910-11	90,368
1914-15	81,651	1909-10	91,791

Comparative summary of Sea Island quotations for the month of January—Prices are approximate trading quotations (unofficial).

Year.	Grade.	Price per pound.
		Cents.
1919-20	Extra choice, or No. 2	82
1918-19	do	75
1917-18	do	73
1916-17	do	52
1915-16	do	26-29

Porto Rico Cotton Crop.

The character of the Porto Rico cotton is almost identical to that grown in the sea islands, and Porto Rico produces between 400 and 900 bales of cotton each season. Herewith are given figures indicating the yield and approximate weight per bale in pounds of the Porto Rico cotton for the last five years:

Year.	Bales.	Estimated weight.
1918-19	564	357
1917-18	388	357
1916-17	507	357
1915-16	905	391
1914-15	796	384

FOREIGN MARKETS

Additional Information Will be Furnished upon Request.

Lack of space necessarily precludes the publication of details in many of the articles appearing in the Foreign Markets section of The Market Reporter. However, so far as its facilities permit, the Division of Foreign Markets will furnish upon request such additional information as may be available.

NOTE.—Unless otherwise stated, conversions of foreign prices into United States money have been made at the par value of the foreign moneys.

FOREIGN EXCHANGE CABLE RATES.

Week Ending January 3.

[From statistics of the Federal Reserve Board.]

Countries.	Coin.	Par value.	Highest.	Lowest.
England	Pound	$4.8665	$3.8025	$3.765
France	Franc	.193	.0945	.092
Belgium	do	.193	.0967	.0925
Italy	Lira	.193	.0772	.0754
Switzerland	Franc	.193	.1808	.1785
Germany	Mark	.2382	.0214	.0203
Poland	do	.2382	.0105	.009
Czechoslovakia	Krone	.2026	.0185	.0170
Jugo-Slavia	do	.2026	.0095	.009
Roumania	Leu	.193	.0310	.0285
Spain	Peso	.193	.1935	.1925
Denmark	Krone	.268	.1945	.1910
Norway	do	.268	.205	.2020
Sweden	Krona	.268	.2160	.2140
Netherlands	Guilder	.402	.37625	.37375
Argentina	Peso	1.0365	1.02	1.01375
Brazil	Milreis	[1].5462	[2].30	[2].275
Mexico	Peso	.4985	.505	.5032
Japan	Yen	.4985	.5075	.50375
China:				
Hongkong	Dollar	[3].8642	1.00	.94
Shanghai	Tael	[3]1.202	1.62	1.54

[1] Gold. [2] Government paper. [3] Approximate.

JAPANESE PEANUT SITUATION.

Japanese peanuts probably will not figure in the American market this year to the extent that they have in the past. According to a cablegram from the American consul at Kobe, Japan, dated December 31, 1919, Japan will have available for export only 23,744,000 pounds of peanuts in the shell, based on an estimated production for 1919 of 47,488,000 pounds in the shell.

The quantity given above as being available for export includes only peanuts produced in Japan. It is well known that Japan reexports large amounts of peanuts imported from other countries, notably from China. The total importation of peanuts by Japan during 1918 was only 14,172,933 pounds, and for the January-August period of 1919 was 16,345,753 pounds. With these figures as a basis, it would be reasonable to assume that if the entire importation plus the entire exportable surplus of peanuts produced in Japan were shipped to the United States, the amount coming into this country would be considerably below the imports of peanuts from Japan in 1918. During the prewar fiscal year ending June 30, 1914, this country imported from Japan 10,432,527 pounds of unshelled peanuts and 583,236 pounds of shelled nuts. For the fiscal year 1917 there were imported 6,593,453 pounds of unshelled peanuts and 15,102,833 pounds shelled. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 1918, the imports of unshelled nuts had decreased to 2,514,183 pounds while the imports of shelled nuts reached the total of 54,394,163 pounds.

In April of 1918 an embargo was placed on the importation of that commodity from the Far East, which reduced the importation so that during the latter half of 1918 only 220,104 pounds of unshelled and 2,836,400 pounds of shelled nuts were imported from Japan. As a result of the embargo the Japanese Government advised the production of other vegetables in preference to peanuts and this advice had the effect of reducing the production.

Another factor is of importance in figuring the extent of the exports of peanuts to the United States. During the war the peanut markets of Europe had been closed to the oriental trade, largely on account o the shortage of ocean tonnage. The resumption of this trade, especially in view of the European demand for vegetable oils, will tend further to reduce the exports to the United States.

AMERICAN FRUIT IN YORKSHIRE.

"There is an extensive demand in Yorkshire for American fruit, and especially for apples and pears," according to a report of the American Vice Consul in charge at Leeds, England, dated December 4, 1919. "The period of the year when sales of American apples are the largest is from November to May. Australian apples are on the market from May until August, and English apples from September until November.

"The eating apple is most in demand, and although nearly all American varieties are on sale here, the Oregon Newtowns, Spitzbergen, and Jonathans are the most popular brands. As compared with the English apple, a large Leeds fruit merchant has stated that the American fruit is superior in quality. It is understood also that the American shippers are more careful in their packing and grading of their apples. American pears are also in large demand, and plums to a lesser degree.

"As regards canned fruits, there is a good demand for all kinds, and this demand prevails the year round. During September and October, however, while the English apple is on the market, the demand for canned fruit is not as large.

"There are numerous large wholesale merchants in Leeds dealing in fruits. Buying is generally not done direct with American shippers but through agents and importers located in the distributing centers such as London and Liverpool."

A list of the fruit dealers in Leeds may be obtained upon application to the Bureau of Markets for list England 130640.

EGYPTIAN WOOL INDUSTRY IN PRIMITIVE STATE.

"The wool which comes upon the Egyptian market emanates from Egypt proper and the Anglo-Egyptian Sudan and is for the greater part an incidental product to the raising of sheep for meat purposes," reports the American council at Alexandria, Egypt, under date of November 12, 1919.

"There is no local consumption of wool. The treatment before exportation is not effected with the scientific thoroughness prevalent in other wool-producing districts. Some houses assort in three grades; i. e., white, black, and brown. Others make a more detailed selection—white, yellow, fawn (light, dark, medium), black, and gray. Owing partly to inefficient washing and cleansing, Egyptian wool has not found a place among the high-priced wools in the world's markets.

"The lack of organization that characterizes the Egyptian wool business precludes the permanence of price records. The prices generally prevailing during the past three years varied for greasy wool from $0.11 to $0.25; for scoured from $0.11 to $0.27.

"The wool gathered for the Egyptian export market emanates from farmers and Bedouin tribes in Egypt and the Sudan. Large flocks maintained primarily for wool-producing purposes do not exist. The general mass is made up for the most part by the collected lots from many sources.

"The wool is sold by the producer to small merchants in the villages, whence it is shipped to Alexandria either on consignment or as the result of direct purchase by the exporter. At Alexandria the wool is washed by sea water, dried, and assorted. The larger portion of Egyptian wool finds its way to English markets. The following table gives the total exports for the years 1910–1919:

Exports of wool from Egypt, 1910–1919.

	Pounds.		Pounds.
1910	4,365,108	1915	8,148,202
1911	3,877,891	1916	6,027,376
1912	4,510,612	1917	3,276,036
1913	4,982,396	1918	1,763,680
1914	5,487,249	1919 (5 months)	914,909

Small quantities of wool have been imported by the United States from Egypt. The following statistics are given for the prewar years ending June 30, 1910–1914, and for the war years 1915 and 1916. No imports were recorded for 1917 or 1918. All of the exports during 1910–1913 were of carpet wools; in 1914, 3,130 pounds of carpet wools and 9,946 pounds of clothing wools were imported. During 1915 and 1916 the entire importation was of clothing wools.

Imports of wool into the United States from Egypt, fiscal years 1910–1916.

	Pounds.		Pounds.
1910	5,964	1914	13,076
1912	48,560	1915	79,676
1913	15,419	1916	77,282

BASIC VALUES FOR ESTIMATING EXPORT DUTY ON HIDES FROM INDIA.

In Reports on Foreign Markets for Agricultural Products No. 27 reference was made to the imposition by British India of an export duty of 15 per cent on hides and skins. Under date of December 8, the Consul General at Calcutta cabled to the Department of State the new basic values for calculating this export duty, which became effective on December 1, 1919.

Basic values for calculating export duties on hides and skins from British India.

Commodity.	Price per pound.	
	Annas.	Cents.
Cowhides:		
Arsenicated air dried—		
Framed	14	28
Unframed	7	14
Dry salted	8	16
Wet salted	7	14
Buffalo hides:		
Arsenicated air dried—		
Framed	8	16
Unframed	4	08
Dry salted	3½	07
Wet salted	3	06

Commodity.	Rupees.	Cents.
Goatskins, per piece	3	97
Sheepskins, do	1	32

The imposition of the duty of 15 per cent probably will be seriously felt in the markets of this country. India is one of the principal sources of our supply of goatskins, buffalo hides, and calfskins; in fact, without India the supply of goatskins and buffalo hides in the United States would be cut in half. The following table gives the imports of these raw materials for the fiscal year 1919 and also for the two preceding fiscal years.

Imports of hides and skins from British India for the fiscal years 1917–1919.

Commodity.	1919	1918	1917
	Pounds.	*Pounds.*	*Pounds.*
Goatskins	41,967,890	31,341,809	43,473,823
Sheepskins	4,217,285	2,490,592	5,091,787
Buffalo hides	5,554,297	3,961,118	18,651,491
Calfskins	2,854,382	1,904,988	17,320,275
Cattle hides	2,096,708	591,171	14,327,054

In 1919 the United States imported 89,004,528 pounds of goatskins. Of this amount 41,967,890 pounds came from India, 47 per cent. Out of a total importation of 9,514,989 pounds of buffalo hides, 58 per cent were imported from India. Fourteen per cent of our calfskins and 7 per cent of our sheepskins used in the United States also came from the British colony.

POLAND NEEDS GRAIN.

According to a cablegram to the Department of State from the American Mission at Paris, Dr. Durand, the Adviser to the Minister of Foodstuffs of Poland, has recently completed a survey of the grain situation in that country. His report shows that approximately only 70 per cent of the prewar acreage has been planted and that the yield per acre is much lower than in normal times. As a result, Dr. Durand estimates that there is a deficit of 740,000 tons of 2,204.6 pounds, 180,000 tons for the civilian population, and 260,000 tons for the army. The estimate for the army may be too high, but owing to a partial failure of the potato crop, the figure for the civilian population is probably too low.

The causes given for the shortage are a reduction in the acreage planted; lack of fertilizers; unfavorable harvest, caused by a scarcity of work animals and implements, a cold and wet summer, and a lack of fuel for threshing; a scarcity of transportation facilities and fuel, which has prevented delivery of grain to the cities; administrative difficulties; inability of the Government to enforce restrictive measures upon the agricultural classes.

Dr. Durand states that Poland must import grain if the people in the industrial and devastated districts are to be fed until the next harvest.

PRICE[1] OF SOY BEANS ADVANCES IN JAPAN.

The soy-bean market in the Far East is advancing, and bean products are following the upward trend, says the Japan Advertiser for October 16, 1919.

The droughts during the summer damaged the soy-bean crops in Manchuria and Chosen [Korea], and it is the general belief that this season's crop of new beans in both countries will be much shorter and of a poorer quality than that of last year. These are the primary causes for the steady recovery of the soy-bean market. Spot cargo is still quoted at 9.4 to 9.5 yen per picul of 133⅓ pounds [about $0.036 per pound]. Forward quota range up to 9.64 yen per picul [$0.037 per pound].

Old crops are much preferred by buyers because they are of a better quality, and, although they are quoted at higher figures, their sale is brisker than that of the new crop.

The soy-bean oil trade is dull and inactive, as European buyers do not buy and only consignments to the United States are now being made from Dairen. However, on account of the soaring tendency in beans, the price is well maintained. According to the official returns just published, the export of soy beans from home ports up to the end of August was 1,628,571 kin [2,171,128 pounds] against 3,182,224 kin [4,242,964 pounds] for the same time last year and 3,779,946 kin [5,039,926 pounds] for the same time in 1917.

(See pages 18, 22, 23, 27, 29, and 30 for additional information on foreign markets.)

FEED MARKET NOTES.

(Continued from page 26.)

for mixed cars of feed. Baltimore reports light stocks with the difference in price between bran and middlings narrowing.

The offerings of mill feed from the Northwest are reported as only moderate at Philadelphia, but the offerings from the winter wheat mills are increasing and feed in transit is being offered at from 50 cents to $1 below western shipment prices.

Richmond reports the market dull on account of heavy receipts and light shipping demand.

Supplies of wheat mill feeds at Atlanta, while low, are adequate for the light demand. Practically no spring wheat bran or middlings are being handled because the required amount can be obtained from hard and soft winter wheat mills at lower prices.

St. Louis reports the market very dull with small arrivals of bran from Kansas and Nebraska. Local demand is quiet as most dealers have adequate stocks. It is reported that some cars of middlings are being carried on track unsold.

The mills at Minneapolis are offering mill feed for prompt shipment. Prices are practically unchanged from the previous week. Rather a good amount of mill feed is reported held by jobbers who, it is stated, traded a good deal among themselves during the week at prices lower than the current quotations.

San Francisco reports a strong market on both bran and middlings but with prices little changed from the previous week.

Cottonseed Meal.—Reports from Atlanta for that market and the surrounding territory state that the demand for cottonseed meal is rather quiet and prices are practically unchanged from last week. The export demand is said to be very light. A few inquiries are being received from feeders in near-by States, particularly the Carolinas. It is reported that considerable of the lower grade meal is being made marketable for feed through conditioning by the addition of choice and prime meal.

The wide range in quality of meal offered is reflected in the wide range in prices. Chicago reports a range of $6 per ton on 36 per cent protein meal, the lower price being quoted on the meal made from seed damaged by the wet weather. Very little demand is reported from the various northern and eastern markets.

Alfalfa Meal.—The stocks of alfalfa meal are reported as light in practically all markets, with from fair to active demand. San Francisco reports the market strong. Chicago states that the market is slightly higher owing to the limited supply. Arrivals at St. Louis are said to be principally on contract, so that but little cash is being offered. The demand is reported fair both at St. Louis and at Atlanta with prices steady.

Linseed Meal.—It is reported from Minneapolis that linseed mills have sold practically the whole of their output for January and February, but considerable meal is said to be in jobbers' hands. This is being offered for prompt shipment. The flax crop in the Northwest appears not to be equal to the demand and mills are obtaining flax from the Atlantic seaboard. Chicago linseed-meal market is reported steady with lower prices anticipated by dealers on account of the large stocks of meal said to be at eastern ports. This meal is reported to have been shipped for export, but has been held on account of the unfavorable rates of exchange and is now being offered in this country.

Hominy Feed.—Mills report the market on hominy feed to be quiet with light demand. The scarcity of cars for the movement of grain is affecting the market and causing the continuance of the high cash prices. Cincinnati and Richmond report active markets with a good demand. Buffalo reports light stocks and fair demand with but little offered.

[1] Conversion made at rate of exchange prevailing on Oct. 16, when 1 yen equaled $0.50625.

REQUEST FOR THE MARKET REPORTER.

For the time being THE MARKET REPORTER will be sent free of charge to applicants who transmit statements showing the need for it. Some of the earlier issues are being sent to certain persons who have not requested it but whose names are on the mailing lists of the United States Department of Agriculture. Anyone who wishes to receive THE MARKET REPORTER regularly should send in the information indicated below if he has not already done so.

Name ..... County .....

P. O. ..... State .....

Business or occupation .....

Kind or kinds of farm products in which interested .....

.....

The names of periodicals or reports (mimeograph or printed) that are being received or have been received by applicant regularly from the Bureau of Markets or any other branch of the United States Department of Agriculture: .....

.....

WASHINGTON : GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE : 1919